ELA B30: Lord of the Flies: PANEL DISCUSSION

Assignment

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**Speaking/Listening Target(s)**

* I can *effectively* participate in a **panel discussion**.
* I can *speak* to share thoughts, opinions and feelings.
* I can *speak* to express understanding, clarify and extend thinking.
* I can *recognize* and adjust **verbal** and **nonverbal presentation elements** (i.e., volume, eye contact, poise).
* I can *recognize* and *identify* **bias** and **fallacy** in a speaker’s argument.
* I can *distinguish* between **emotional appeal** and **reasoned argument**.

**Panel discussions** occur when a group discusses an issue by pooling the group’s knowledge and working toward a solution or decision. Panel discussions encourage the sharing of different views. They encourage participants and audience to adopt an attitude of **inquiry.** An attitude of **inquiry** is any process that has the aim of **augmenting** [**knowledge**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Knowledge), **resolving** [**doubt**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doubt), or **solving a** [**problem**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Problem). They also allow for *audience participation*.

**Aim**

The **aim** of a panel discussion is to carry on a guided and informal discussion *before an audience* as if the panel were meeting alone. There should be **volunteering of facts**, **asking questions**, **stating opinions** - all expressed with geniality, with *respect* for the contributions of other members, without speech making, and without making invidious personal references. The secondary function of the panel is to answer questions from the audience. The **overall aim** is to see your thought process, organizational skills and speaking capabilities.

**What is the difference between a debate and a panel discussion?**

Panels can be very *entertaining*, as they do provide the kind of back-and-forth attention to issues seen in debates, but provide a more **informal appearance**, much like a keen and *passionate discussion between two individuals or groups*.  The trick here is to avoid chaos or, conversely, dominance by a superior speaker-- that is, when a speaker begins to talk, you must be careful not to tread on their lines, resulting in a loud mish-mash of noise...  conversely, an accomplished speaker must be careful not to speak too much, monopolizing the allotted time.   *Careful preparation and understanding of the dynamics of your group will result in a balanced presentation that allows all speakers to have equal time.*

**Things to consider that may help your argument:**

Stanford Prison Experiment

The effects of Authority on Obedience Milgram

The Theory of Structural Models of Personality Freud

The Novel