

Socratic Seminar

Mary Church Terrell



What is a Socratic Seminar?

- A question-focused, student-led discussion on a variety of topics.
- Your goal is to acquire new understanding of ideas by “thinking out loud” with your class.

What do you do?

- Respond to the prompt silently in your journal.
- After several minutes, we will discuss your answers with the class.
- Always acknowledge the counterargument in your responses.

Example

The prompt will show a statement that you have to either agree or disagree with, such as:

Schools should require uniforms.

A response may look like this:

"I do not believe schools should require school uniforms because it limits students' ability to express their individuality. *(cite a source from our articles)* However, I can see how some students may like not having the pressure of finding something to wear every day and dealing with the peer pressure of 'fitting in' through their clothes *(cite a source from an article)*."

**When writing your responses,
you must cite an article for your
argument *and* counterargument.**

Use the articles about Mary Church Terrell we analyzed
in our stations.

Prompt 1:

"Suffrage is not a right. It is a privilege that may or may not be granted."

-J. B. Sanford, Chairmen of Democratic Caucus, 1911

Agree or Disagree?

Prompt 2:

"A white woman has only one handicap to overcome—that of sex. I have two—both sex and race...Colored men have only one—that of race. Colored women are the only group in this country who have two heavy handicaps to overcome, that of race as well as sex."

**-Mary Church Terrell, 1890 Women's
Suffrage Association Convention**

Agree or Disagree?

Prompt 3:

**Mary Church Terrell's activism
has had lasting impacts that can
be seen in today's society.**

Agree or Disagree?

Works Cited

- Black Women's Suffrage. "Mary Church Terrell." *Black Women's Suffrage*, blackwomenssuffrage.dp.la/key-figures/marychurchterrell. Accessed 26 Jul. 2023.
- Sanford, J.B. "Argument Against Women's Suffrage." 26 Jun. 1911. Voter's Information Manual. chrome-extension://efaidnbnmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://sfpl.org/pdf/libraries/main/sfhistory/suffrageagainst.pdf