Small Group Discussion Prompts

Activity #3

Total time: ~10 minutes

Objective: To get people thinking about what they prioritize in the classroom. This activity comes after their initial bell hooks quote discussion and their 5/3/1 writing exercise, so there is lots of new fuel for this discussion. Many participants express discomfort at boiling it down to a single word, but are ultimately successful or simply request to "pass."

1. Ask people to get into groups of 3
2. Ask each group to identify a "person 1"
3. Explain: This workshop wants to set the example for the values we see in the classroom. In that sense, we want everyone to have time to be heard and to receive attention and reflection. To that end, I will be announcing when to switch to Person 2, and subsequently, to Person 3. Each person will have 3 minutes to talk about their writing, either findings or follow up ideas or questions. Remember that we're trying to identify one word answers about a value and a concern!
4. Set your timer for 3 minutes. When it rings, announce "Switch to Person 2"
5. Again, set your time for 3 minutes, and then announce "Switch to Person 3"

Text provided on the projector screen:

Small Group Discussion #1: Values and Concerns

Be ready to give a **one word answer** to each of these when we regroup: "Which **values** are important to you?" and "What **concerns** do you have with incorporating critical pedagogy?"

Here are some helpful questions to consider:
Where have you already encountered personal struggles when embracing critical pedagogy?
Where do you anticipate personal struggles?

Chimes will ring every three minutes to indicate a switch to a new person

Small Group Discussion Prompts

Activity #5

Total time: ~23 minutes

Objective: This is the time for syllabus (re)creation.

1. Ask students to get back in their previous grouping of three—participants have said that working in the same group helps them speak to each other's interests over the course of the workshop.
2. Explain that each person will 7 minutes of group attention: 2 for explaining their activity and 5 for feedback.
3. Set the timer for 2, and then for 5, announcing "Time for feedback!" after two, and "Time to switch to Person 2!" after 5. (The display says chimes will announce the switch, and you can use the timer alarm, but sometimes that doesn't cut through the sound of discussions.)
4. Repeat this for Person 2, and the transition to Person 3.
5. Repeat this for Person 3, and the transition into the closing.

Text provided on the projector screen:

Small Group Discussion #2: Activity Redesign

7 minutes each:
> *2 minutes to explain/share,*
> *5 minutes for feedback/collaboration*

Chimes will ring to indicate a switch to a new person

Questions for Group Consideration:

How are we accounting for race? Gender? Class? Queerness?