Harkness Discussion Checklist

After the discussion, as a group, give an accurate score for each category. Each section is worth ten points.

A hardworking, critical thinking discussion in which students engaged in the following:

☐ Everyone equitably participated meaningfully and substantively in the discussion
  ☐ Students participated without fear
  ☐ Student took risks in their responses
  ☐ Students were encouraged to participate
  ☐ Students assigned roles and tracked the discussion to ensure flow
  ☐ One student did not take over the discussion

☐ The flow of the discussion was at a smooth pace. Points were not overly drawn out or rushed over.
  ☐ The discussion built on comments and questions. All points or questions were resolved before the next topic
  ☐ There as focus on one speaker at a time
  ☐ Students stayed on topic was the task

☐ The discussion was engaging and did not feel “fake”
  ☐ Students carefully considered points

☐ Students listened carefully to one another

☐ Students supported their points with evidence and further research
  ☐ The text was referred to often
  ☐ Students made relevant connections to today and other texts (including media)

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