

**Focused Conversation Questions**  
for the video *Literacy: A World to Discover*

*A World to Discover*  
**Literacy**



**Objective:**

To assist discussion groups or individuals to reflect on and deepen their understanding of literacy, particularly how it impacts their world.

*The purpose of the questions is to stimulate individual thinking and sharing among members of a group; not all questions in each section need to be used.*

Questions	Notes
<p><b>Objective questions</b>—dealing with data and sensory observation to develop a shared understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What stood out in the video (e.g., images, sounds, words, technologies)?</li> <li>• What types of communication did you see (e.g., verbal, signage, face-to-face)?</li> <li>• What examples of literacy did you see?</li> <li>• What did you notice about the people in the video?</li> <li>• What else?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Reflective questions</b>—related to personal reactions and experiences to engage memory and the imagination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What was your initial reaction to the video’s presentation of literacy?</li> <li>• What scenes in the video excited you? Concerned you (e.g., concerning technology, concerning education)?</li> <li>• What personal events or experiences did you associate with any part of this video?</li> <li>• What else?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Interpretive questions</b>—about meaning, significance and implications that lead to higher order thinking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did the video challenge or affirm what you know about literacy?</li> <li>• What relationships did you see in the video?</li> <li>• What big ideas does the video convey (e.g., the implications of instant access to never-ending communication)?</li> <li>• What about literacy would you add to this video?</li> <li>• What else?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Decisional questions</b>—concerned with resolution and relevant next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How could you use this literacy video in your work (e.g., as educator, parent, employer)?</li> <li>• What does the video suggest as a next step for you (e.g. as educator, parent, employer)?</li> <li>• Who else should see this literacy video? Why?</li> <li>• What else?</li> </ul>	



### Working Assumptions

1. Everyone has wisdom.
2. We need everyone's wisdom for the wisest result.
3. There are no wrong answers. There are no right answers—only the best at the time.
4. The whole is greater than the sum of its parts (i. e., the relationships between the ideas as well as the content).
5. Everyone will hear others and everyone will be heard.

go to <http://topfacilitation.com/Docs/AFC.pdf>

For more specific details about the focused conversation method,

Decisional questions  
concerned with  
resolution

Interpretive questions  
about meaning,  
significance and  
implications

Reflective questions  
related to personal  
reactions and  
experiences

Objective questions  
dealing with data and  
sensory observation

**Focused conversation** is a guided conversation technique based on a specific method of questioning. It helps people process information and reach their own thoughtful conclusions. Focused conversation involves discussing and answering a series of questions based on four levels of thinking:

## Facilitator Tips

*Prepare for the meeting by doing the following:*

- Become familiar with the literacy video(s).
- Provide participants with information, including any handouts and video links, and allow for sufficient time to review the resource.
- Choose a flexible, well-equipped space. Ensure that technology requirements are met. Consider organizing the space so that everyone has a place to sit and write, and so that each participant can easily interact with you and other participants.

*As you lead the focused conversation, do the following:*

- Share the Working Assumptions.
- Use the focused conversation questions to guide the conversation.
- Maintain objectivity.
- Assume (or share) responsibility for the group conversation.
- Use time and space intentionally.
- Adapt to changing situations.
- Manage the existing relationships.
- Read the underlying dynamics of the group.
- Evoke participation and creativity.
- Honour the group and affirm its wisdom.





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# Literacy

*A World to Discover*



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