Humanities Socratic Seminar Roles\*

*How many will you play?*

1. **Initiator**
   1. Role: begin discussion or bring up new topics
   2. Value: gets the conversation going, helps keep the pace engaging
2. **Quote-Finder**
   1. Role: bring up textual quotes to ask questions or illustrate a point
   2. Value: supports our ideas with evidence from the text & returns us to the purpose of the discussion
3. **Connector**
   1. Role: cite prior conversations, texts, & how they relate to our current topic
   2. Value: deepens/ validates discussions by linking them
4. **Questioner**
   1. Role: raise questions to clarify others’ comments, details from the book, etc.
   2. Value: ensures everyone understands, deepens conversation
5. **Devil’s Advocate**
   1. Role: argue opposing (maybe even unpopular) side of an issue
   2. Value: diversifies the ideas in discussion, challenges our logic & assumptions
6. **Summarizer**
   1. Role: bring together the points raised in discussion & clarify meaning, propose new synthesis of ideas
   2. Value: helps us to determine conclusions, self-correct
7. **Peer Engager**
   1. Role: bring others into the discussion
   2. Value: enriches the conversation by increasing the number of ideas
8. **Class Wrangler**
   1. Role: bring us back on topic when we lose focus
   2. Value: we have a fruitful discussion & have enough time to arrive at some conclusions instead of pursuing tangents
9. **Recorder**
   1. Role: take accurate notes to help us track the progression of comments, quotes etc.
   2. Value: provides a detailed account of the conversation so we can refer to it later