

Selecting a Meaningful Quote

A set of “A Collection of Quotes to Consider” was distributed to students. They were asked to consider these four questions as they read through them.

What does it mean?

Why do you think someone said this?

What is the message?

How can you connect with the ideas in the quote?

They then selected a quote that they felt they connect to. Meeting in pairs, they discussed their quote, their understanding of the quote and how they thought they could connect to it. The pairs were asked to find another set of partners and repeat the process, now in a group of four. If they had selected or highlighted more than one quote, they had permission to discuss a different quote each time they met in small groups.

For the larger class discussion, students were asked to consider why they chose the quote, and what they thought it might communicate about them. Students were able to respond to and pose questions about interpretations of the quotes.

Why did you choose the quote?

What do you want it to communicate about you?

A Collection of Quotes to Consider

"Some men see things as they are and ask why. Others dream things that never were and ask why not." - George Bernard Shaw

"Never look down on anybody unless you're helping him up" --The Reverend Jesse Jackson

In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.

Martin Luther King Jr.

Nothing shows a man's character more than what he laughs at.

[Johann Wolfgang von Goethe](#)

It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare; It is because we do not dare that they are difficult.

-Seneca

The most valuable possession you can own is an open heart. The most powerful weapon you can be is an instrument of peace.

[Carlos Santana](#)

"Knowing which way to turn gives you self confidence. Taking a chance and going the opposite way gives you a chance to see what you are made of."

Bob Perk

"There are two types of people - those who come into a room and say, "Well, here I am," and those who come into a room and say, "Ah, there you are."

Frederick Collins

"Aerodynamically, the bumblebee shouldn't be able to fly, but the bumblebee doesn't know it so it goes on flying anyway."

Mary Kay Ash

"Whether you think you can, or you think you can't--you're right."

— [Henry Ford](#)

The difference between a smart man and a wise man is that a smart man knows what to say, a wise man knows whether or not to say it. ~Frank M. Garafola

In Germany they first came for the Communists; I did not speak because I was not a Communist. Then they came for the Jews; I did not speak because I was not a Jew. Then they came to fetch the workers, members of trade unions; I was not a trade unionist. Afterward, they came for the Catholics; I did not say anything because I was a Protestant. Eventually they came for me, and there was no one left to speak. -Pastor Martin Niemoller, a Protestant minister imprisoned during Germany's Third Reich

"There are two kinds of people, those who do the work and those who take the credit. Try to be in the first group - there is less competition."

-Indira Ghandi

A man who stands for nothing will fall for anything.

Malcolm X

"The right to do something does not mean that doing it is right."

-William Safire

"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind."

— Dr. Seuss

Why is it that, as a culture, we are more comfortable seeing two men holding guns than holding hands? ~Ernest Gaines

"It is better to be defeated with integrity, than to win without it."

Unknown

Always be a first-rate version of yourself, instead of a second-rate version of somebody else. ~Judy Garland

"Be yourself; everyone else is already taken."

— Oscar Wilde

“Insanity is doing the same thing, over and over again, but expecting different results.”

— Albert Einstein

“If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.”

— Mark Twain

“Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.”

— Mahatma Gandhi



