

Sample Rubric: Dred Scott Inner-Circle Discussion

Criteria	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Addresses Key Issues/Punches Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ A minimum to an absence of key issues is presented. ◇ Accordingly, many of the important points are not accentuated during speech. ◇ Organization is totally absent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ A moderate number of key issues are presented. ◇ Of those, some are emphasized during speech. ◇ Some organization can be detected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ The key issues are addressed. ◇ The speaker emphasizes points as highlights during the speech. ◇ The organization is competent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Major and minor key issues are presented. ◇ The speaker varies the intensity of accentuated points that are relevant. ◇ From beginning to end, it is superbly organized.
Clarity of the Speaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Words are difficult to comprehend and wholly inadequate to what the speaker is trying to express. ◇ Text is difficult to understand and is vague. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Words are muddled, and a proper choice of words is lacking. ◇ This presents the audience with some difficulty in understanding what is being said. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Spoken words are reasonably clear and most thoughts are described in a complete manner. ◇ Most of the words can be followed and understood with ease. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ With superb and crystal clear speaking, each word accurately describes the thought and intention of the speaker. ◇ Speech is easy to follow and understood.
Emotions (Speaking)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ A total lack of emotion is revealed, as expression is “wooden” and bland. ◇ Body language and gestures are totally nonexistent as little to no effort is made to give an animated presentation. ◇ It leaves the audience bored. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Attempt to display emotions is sparse. ◇ Presentation has brief sketches of bodily animation that make the moment lively, but they are few and far between. ◇ The movements occasionally engage the audience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Emotions are effectively displayed. ◇ The presentation is bodily animated, and gestures and emotions are expressed facially and with the body. ◇ The movements hold the attention of the audience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ A highly effective use of emotions is revealed to the point where the audience instantly reacts. ◇ The observer feels the effect of the expressions, gestures, body language and facial expressions. ◇ The audience is mesmerized.
Eye Contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ No eye contact is made with members of the audience/peers; eyes are not focused on the audience. ◇ In this manner, it does not command or hold their attention to what is being said. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ A brief attempt is made to make eye contact with the audience/peers; it is done occasionally. ◇ There are moments that the audience is not attentive because of the speaker’s mannerisms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Frequent use of eye contact is made with the audience/peers. ◇ The speaker looks out at his/her audience/peers and frequently looks directly into their eyes to attract attention to his/her words. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Eye contact is made with the audience/peers on a regular basis. ◇ There is a determined effort to command attention, the eyes wandering from face to face on a rotating basis; listeners anchored to the spoken words.
Supporting Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ There is a total and complete absence of any supporting evidence. ◇ It renders the work/performance superfluous and lacking in scholarship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ A moderate amount of evidence is provided to support the work/performance. ◇ Some of the material is worthy, and it does indicate a minimal effort at scholarship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ A substantial amount of evidence is provided to support the work/performance. ◇ Much of it is first-rate, adding substance and scholarship to the effort. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ The amount of evidence provided is plentiful, which supports the work/performance. ◇ All of it excellent, using first-rate, prime material at the highest level of scholarship.