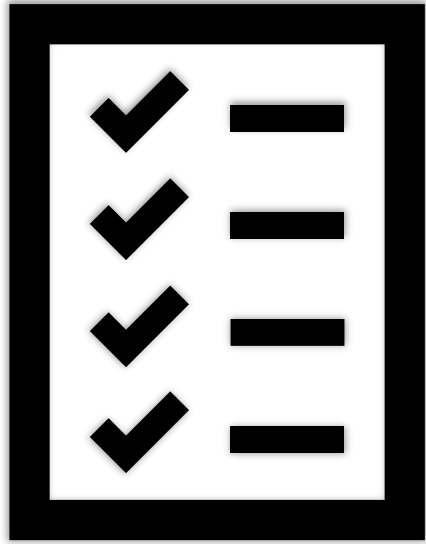


Framework for Student Engagement and Critical Thinking in Online Discussions

Framework Component	Description
Detailed instructions and clear expectations	Provide detailed instructions and clear expectations for students to know how to approach the discussion assignment.
Share thought process	Invite students to share their thought process for all to see; similar to a think-aloud process.
Prompt discussion with questions	Students pose questions in their post to invite more discussion with peers.
Weave evidence into post	Students weave in research or found evidence into the body of the discussion.
Reflection	Include a reflection at the end of the discussion post.



Provide detailed instructions and clear expectations for students to know how to approach the discussion assignment.

Detailed Instructions and Clear Expectations

When clear guidelines are in place, students can reach higher levels of learning.

Tip: Detailed Instructions and Clear Expectations



Invite students to share their thought process for all to see; similar to a think-aloud process.

Share Thought Process

"You can show evidence of critical thinking by sharing your thought process in doing the activity for all to see."

Example: Share Thought Process in Discussion

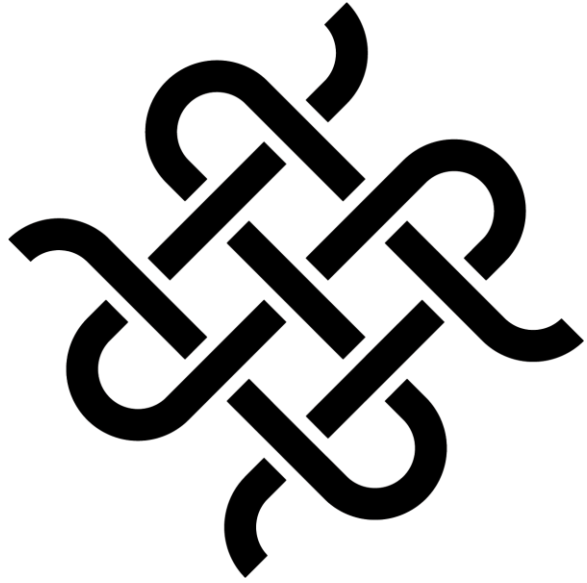


Students pose questions in their post to invite more discussion with peers.

Prompt Discussion With Questions

"Ask questions of others in your post or reflect on something you may be struggling with or thinking about."

Example: Prompt Discussion With Questions

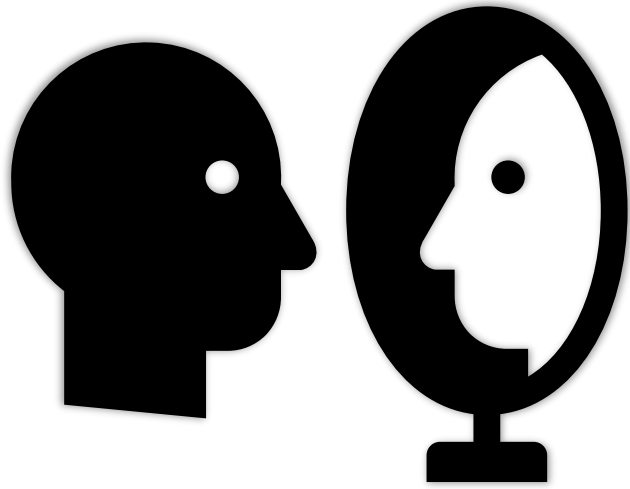


Students weave in research or found evidence into the body of the discussion.

Weave Evidence Into Post

"Post an opinion or solution from your point of view and weave in evidence to support it. Remember to reference the resources used to provide the evidence."

Example: Weave Evidence Into Post in Discussion Prompt



Include a reflection at the end of the discussion post.

Reflection

"Did you learn anything new? Did you change your mind about anything? How have you deepened or expanded your own thinking?"

Example: Reflection