



Temperature Check

This is an introductory activity to be used before beginning the curriculum.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Advance awareness among students about shared opinions and differing perspectives
- Build coherent arguments through comparative analysis
- Physicalize thinking for engaged learning

INSTRUCTIONS

Designate one side of your classroom “strongly agree” and the other “strongly disagree,” with the point in the middle designated “neutral.” Based on the prompts below, students will physically arrange themselves along the spectrum based on how they feel about the prompt. For some prompts, invite students to pair and share to discuss their placement or share out to the whole class — this is especially encouraged for the prompts under “*Henry V* Themes.” Spectrum prompts are designed to cover a variety of topics and can be selected or omitted based on time constraints for your class. You can also ask the students to create their own prompts. A minimum of three prompts from each category is recommended.

Warmup

- Pineapple tastes great on pizza.
- Football is better than soccer.
- Apple Music is better than Spotify.
- Dogs are a better pet than cats.

Shakespeare

- Shakespeare is the best playwright of all time.
- Shakespeare’s plays are meant to be performed rather than read.
- Shakespeare’s language is beautiful.
- Shakespeare’s work is universal.

Henry V Themes

- War can be justified.
- All human lives have equal worth (e.g., a citizen is just as valuable as a president).
- Leaders need to be interrogated and challenged by the people they lead.
- Being a good leader is synonymous with being a good person.