

Name of Protocol: Save the Last Word for ME

Purpose: To clarify and deepen thinking about a text

Time: 30 minutes

Roles: Facilitator/timekeeper, participants

Materials: Text, highlighters

Note: The process is designed to build on each other's thinking, not to enter into dialogue. Timing is important.

Procedure:

1. Create a group of 4 participants. One member needs to be a timekeeper.
2. Each participant silently identifies a significant idea addressed in the article and highlights that passage.
3. When the group is ready, one member identifies the part that was significant and reads it out loud to the group. This person does not share why the passage was chosen.
4. Pause for a moment to reflect on the passage and then each of the other participants have 1 minute to respond to the passage saying what it makes them think about or questions it raises, etc.
5. After, the first participant has 3 minutes to state why the passage was chosen and to respond to or build on what was heard from the other members.
6. Steps 3-5 are repeated until all members have had a chance to present and have the "last word".

Ideas for Debrief:

1. Process check: How did the protocol go in our group? Could anything have gone better?
2. Emotions check: What feelings came up for you as you shared or heard passages from the text?
3. Purpose check: How was this a useful way to explore the ideas in the text and to explore your own thinking?

Credit:

Averette, Patricia. (n.d.) *Save the Last Word for ME*. School Reform Initiative.

https://www.nsrffharmony.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/forming_ground_rules.pdf