Directions for Philosophical Chairs

- 1. Read the philosophical statement and decide if you agree or disagree.
- 2. Sit facing each other across the center of the room depending on your response to the statement.
- 3. If undecided, sit in the neutral zone so that you can see both sides.
- 4. Students address each other by their first names.
- 5. Briefly summarize the previous speaker's points before stating his/her own comments.
- 6. Think before you speak and organize your thoughts (I have three points to make....first....).
- 7. After speaking, wait until at least two students speak before speaking again.
- 8. One speaker at a time, others are listeners.
- 9. Address the ideas, not the person.
- 10. Students sitting in the neutral zone must take notes on both sides. If his/her position changes, she may move to the appropriate side and then must state why he/she came to this conclusion.