

SAMPLE DISCUSSION POST:

UNIT 2

*Please note that this is a **sample** Discussion post to help inspire and guide your own original writing of the assignment. Your assignment does not need to look exactly like the sample, as this sample is just a possible response to the assignment prompt. Be sure to review the reading and grading rubric, complete each task in the instructions, and contact the instructor with any questions.*

DISCUSSION POST:

Hi everyone,

I thought the reading for this week was quite interesting. In terms of ethical communication, I think the importance of audience and engaging with everyone that has a stake in the issue are some of the key ideas. One notable suggestion, drawn from Linda Flower, was to be “actively engaged in uncovering the missing, unrepresented voices in an issue and creating a negotiated understanding of the problem and potential solutions” (CM 220 Unit 2 reading Part I, “Linda Flower’s Rhetoric of Community Engagement”). By seeking out those that might not usually be heard of, new and more fair solutions can be found. Steven Johnson’s TED Talk “Where Good Ideas Come From” (2010) also emphasizes the relationship between collaboration and problem-solving; sometimes, we can’t figure out the answer ourselves, but engaging with others can lead to a solution.

A TED talk that I found well done is “What I Learned as a Prisoner in North Korea” by Euna Lee (2016). In this speech, Lee discusses her 140 days in a North Korean detention center after getting arrested as a journalist along the Chinese border. I chose this topic since North Korea has been in the news a lot lately and knowing more about how people are treated and what their lives are like in the region can be useful for understanding some of the political issues that are currently being discussed. The speaker was very personable and used her experience to try and bring an experience that many people do not have to life. This method of persuasion can be useful for seeing a different side of an argument. Lee was especially useful at giving a human face to the guards at the detention center she was held at.

How might trying to listen to all of the different voices involved in an issue be problematic as well as beneficial?

Kathy

References

Johnson, S. (2010, July). *Where good ideas come from* [video file]. TED Talks.
https://www.ted.com/talks/steven_johnson_where_good_ideas_come_from

Lee, E. (2016, October). *What I learned as a prisoner in North Korea* [video file]. TED x Indiana University.

https://www.ted.com/talks/euna_lee_what_i_learned_as_a_prisoner_in_north_korea

Linda Flower's rhetoric of community engagement. (2018). CM 220 Unit 2 reading.

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RESPONSE POST:

Hi Kathy,

I think the Ted Talk that you posted is very interesting. I have read a couple of books about prisoners in North Korea that you might be interested in if this topic is important to you. Please let me know and I will send you the titles.

I also found the Johnson TED Talk useful; I have experienced situations at work where we needed to solve a problem, like how to improve a process for addressing customer complaints. Only when we had people from sales and customer service meet together did we figure out a process that was more streamlined and would assure that customers received a timely response and solution to their concern.

As far as your question is concerned, I think that it is important to ensure that there is some organization and system in place for everyone to share their thoughts on a topic. If people are not careful, there can be a tendency to have the loudest voice have the most weight. Everyone also needs to show and be shown respect for their various experiences and ideas. This way people feel more comfortable discussing multiple options in order to find the best one.

Janet