



# Teaching Discussion-based Classes

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# Lectures vs. Seminars

- Lectures
  - Straightforward
  - We have a better understanding of successes and failures
- Seminars
  - Nobody is sure about how good ones look like
  - We do not have a good understanding of what causes their success or failure
  - More complex forms of teaching/learning practice

# What is a (Good) Discussion?

- Lecturer's "The Usual": Q/A



# What is a (Good) Discussion?

- “Free-for-all”



- “Kids’ Participation Trophy”



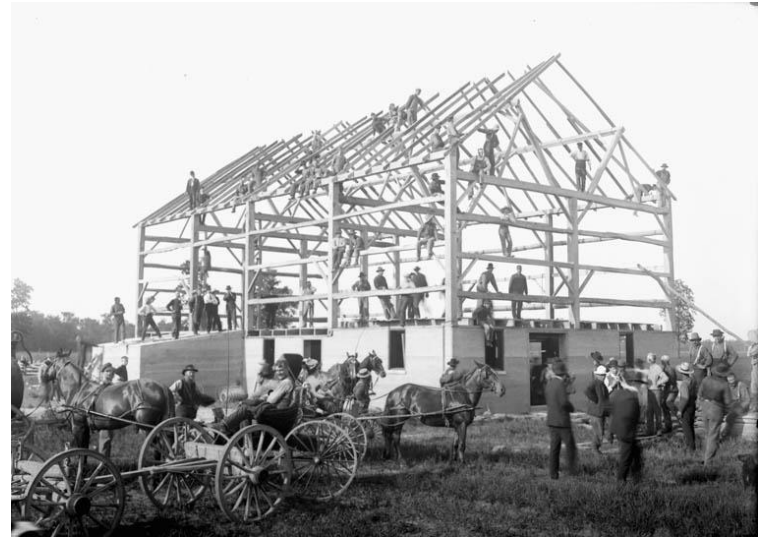


# What is a (Good) Discussion?

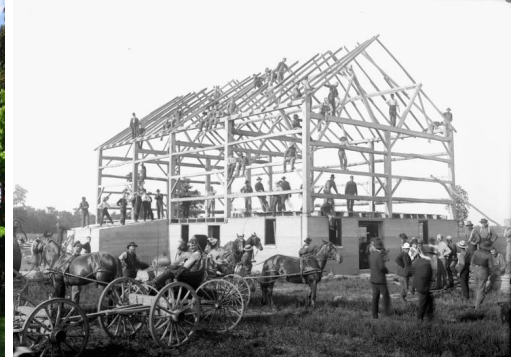
- “Socratic House Tour”



- “Barn Raising”



# Which strategy is most helpful?

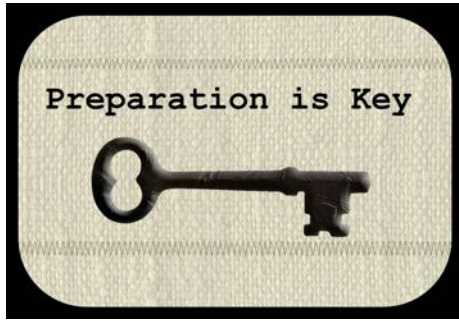


What is your objective?

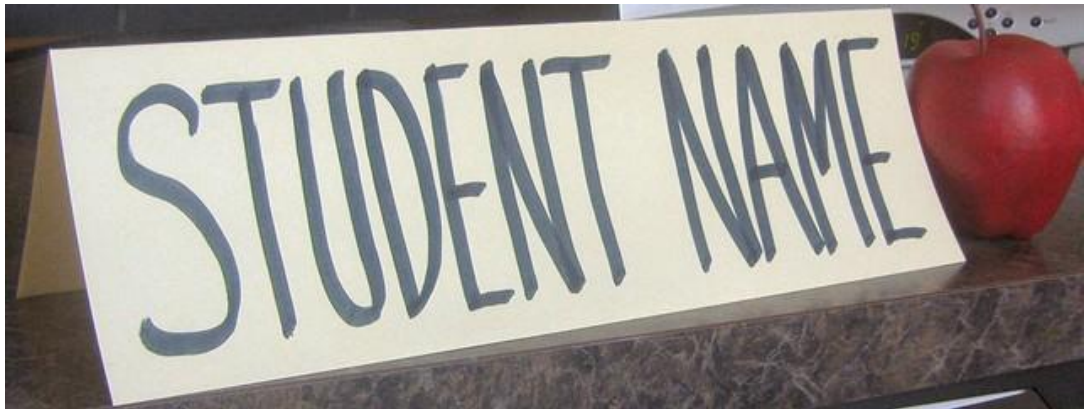
What is the subject matter?

Who is your audience?

# MATERIAL PREPARATION & TIPS



- Make sure that you know what you want to achieve out of discussion!
- Prepare alternative sets of plans/questions/activities for discussion!
- Know the level and expectations of your students!
- If possible know the name of your students!



# MATERIAL PREPARATION & TIPS

- Arrange the room and physical environment



- WAIT! Give students time to respond...
- Do not always answer the questions immediately...
  - Ask it to other students: "What do you think?"