

# The 10 Discussion Commandments

(I hope I can get to 10 now that I've said that . . .)

1. Post a response to 2 of the 3 discussion threads for each day's assignment. Each response is worth 3 points. Make sure it has some thoughtful content. Answering *why* is always a good way to say more!
2. Comment 2 times each day in response to your peers' posts. Each comment is worth 2 points. Although response and comment may sound different, really you are doing the same thing, just in response to a peer, not me. (Just in case you didn't notice, that's 10 points total each day Monday through Thursday. These points will begin the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.)
3. Always be fair and constructive. Choose words that build and grow even when they offer a criticism or contrast. There is plenty of room in this wide world for all our insights.
4. Put something into your responses to your peers. No one wants to read "Great idea!" or "I agree" 26 times. And by no one, I mean me. And you.
5. Go back to discussions to see what later responders say. We are all working on our own timelines! Someone has to post first and someone has to post last, but it would be great if we all read all the posts! You have to respond to your peers anyway! This discussion is our tool for beginning our critical thinking about the musical and its ideas.
6. Sometimes I embed several questions into one discussion thread. Things get complicated. Take what you want and set aside the rest. The prompts aren't checklists; they are conversation starters.
7. Keep it school appropriate. I know you will. But I still have to say so. Like everyone keeps saying "wash your hands!" And making toilet paper jokes.
8. Draft in a document and then copy and paste into the discussion. So many benefits and safeties here. Speaking from experience.
9. Gosh, I'm so close. I'm saving one for #10, so I'm going to have to fudge #9 instead. No, I got it. All work is due by Friday, March 27. I will read your posts through the week, but I will grade on Saturday.
10. Try to have fun! Just listening, reading, thinking, and writing. ELA heaven!