Philosophical Inquiry and Senior Cycle Ethical Education

• To introduce you to the P4C pedagogy initially developed by Matthew Lipman and Ann Margaret Sharp almost 50 years ago

• To give you an experiential understanding of P4C when applied to the Senior Cycle Ethical Education.

Facilitated by Marelle Rice
“The aim of a thinking skills program such as P4C is not to turn children into philosophers or decision makers, but to help them become more thoughtful, more reflective, more considerate, and more reasonable individuals”

Matthew Lipman
“I believe that education... is a process of living and not a preparation for future living”

John Dewey, My Pedagogical Creed, 1897
## Senior Cycle Key Skills and Ethical Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strand</th>
<th>Key Skill</th>
<th>Ethical Skill</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction: Values – Assumptions and Action</td>
<td>Critical and Creative Thinking</td>
<td>Using Criteria</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Working with Others</td>
<td>Productive Discussion</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Critical and Creative Thinking</td>
<td>Avoiding Cognitive Biases</td>
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<td>2. Identity, Inclusion and Diversity</td>
<td>Being Personally Effective</td>
<td>Being consistent</td>
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<td>3. Pleasure, Purpose and the Meaning of Life</td>
<td>Information Processing</td>
<td>Perception and Reality</td>
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<td>Being Personally Effective</td>
<td>Growth Mindset</td>
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<td>4. Power and Privilege</td>
<td>Information Processing</td>
<td>Analysing Statistics and Data</td>
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<td>Working with Others</td>
<td>Negotiating a solution</td>
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<td>5. Acting on our Values</td>
<td>Being Personally Effective</td>
<td>SMART planning</td>
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<td>6. Justice</td>
<td>Working with Others</td>
<td>Being Reciprocal</td>
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## Four Thinking C’s

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<tr>
<th>Caring Thinking</th>
<th>Collaborative Thinking</th>
<th>Creative Thinking</th>
<th>Critical Thinking</th>
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<td>Engaging with and reflecting on the stimulus</td>
<td>Supportive and encouraging attitude</td>
<td>Giving an alternative perspective or idea</td>
<td>Giving reasons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bring respectful to the speaker</td>
<td>Building on someone else’s thought</td>
<td>Identifying implications and consequences</td>
<td>Questioning evidence and looking for assumptions</td>
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<td>Taking an interest in others’ thoughts and experiences</td>
<td>Offering a summary of a line of inquiry</td>
<td>Giving an example connected to the world</td>
<td>Drawing distinctions and identifying criteria</td>
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<td>Explaining clearly</td>
<td>Disagreeing agreeably</td>
<td>Asking a good question</td>
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<td>Open to changing thinking/behaviour</td>
<td>Engaged with setting and reviewing community customs and rules</td>
<td>Making clear connections to and comparisons with other peoples’ ideas</td>
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Three key messages for students about their role in the community of inquiry:

1. Participate
2. Self Regulate
3. Reasonable

P4C models a democracy.

Two useful tools to establish Philosophical Inquiry:

1. Classroom Layout – seating arranged in a circle for Full Fat Inquiry to aid communication, enable self regulation and establish the community.
2. Talking Tool – helps organise dialogue in the group and gives students autonomy and responsibility.

One underlying skill:

1. Active Listening
1. Warm up
2. Stimulus
3. Private reflections (thinking time)
4. Question creation
5. Question airing
6. Question choosing
7. First thoughts
8. Inquiry (middle words)
9. Last words (without response)
10. Review and evaluation process/content
Plato’s Allegory of the Cave

• An allegory is a story, poem, or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning.

• [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RWO8pQXTltA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RWO8pQXTltA)
Agree – Disagree line

• Would you want to be released from the cave?

Yes  No

• Place a Post It with your name on it anywhere along the agree-disagree continuum.

• Remember you can change it at anytime to show a change in your thinking in response to what has been said.
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Look for the key concepts of a prospective stimulus; what are the big ideas behind it?

- Story
- Script
- Poetry
- Video clip
- Objects
- Music

- Movement
- Newspapers
- Adverts
- Films
- Cartoons
- Internet
Useful Websites:

Open Learn:
https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/culture/philosophy/choose-your-own-philosophy-adventure

BBC History of Ideas Animations:
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLiykcLlLcGPE0q9BiMexLFj-1rq9GUwX

Ted Ed:
https://ed.ted.com/lessons?category=philosophy

The Good Place: Mother Forkin' Morals with Dr. Todd May

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fvfLU4kY_8A&index=5&list=PLpgOgnLxJ6X_rvLy99lfy2p0Qzxzr3gVOT&t=0s
Final Thoughts...

Code: 85 08 53

5 word Newspaper Headline summary in any style you please.