

A Few (more) Silences

(inspired by "A Few Silences" by Douglas Barrett)

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Notes:

- For 4-12 players divided into 2 groups (A and B)
- Materials: stopwatches and writing material
- When recording or vocalizing observations, only do 3-5 per round
- Read through the instructions thoroughly before beginning

1) Set a timer for 5 minutes. Both groups spend 5 minutes making observations about the environment they are in. Observations may be about: sounds, movements, moods, thoughts, one's self, other persons, another group's observations, etc. Group A writes down their observations silently and the time in which they occurred. Group B vocalizes their observations and writes nothing down.

2) Re-set the timer for another 5 minutes. Group A verbalizes their observations at the moment they were given. While this is occurring Group B is now making written notes about their observations with corresponding time signatures.

3) Re-set the timer for another 5 minutes. Group B verbalizes their observations at the moment they were given. While this is occurring Group A is writing down questions that arise during these 5 minutes.

4) Re-set the timer for 5 minutes. These questions are read aloud and repeated until 5 minutes is over (The reading should happen sequentially. In other words, Person A reads question 1, then Person B reads question 1, then Person C reads question 1, then Person A reads question 2, etc). While this is happening, Group B writes down questions that arise during these 5 minutes.

5) Re-set the timer for 5 minutes. Group B reads aloud their questions, sequentially, and repeats them until 5 minutes is over. While this is happening each member of Group A picks one question they want to talk about in the next round

6) Re-set the timer for 5 minutes. Members of Group A read aloud their questions. Members of Group B pick one question to answer and try to answer it. At any point, members of Group A can ask a new question.