

Why Dialogue?

Defining Purpose: What do you want people to **feel, think, know, or do** as a result of your dialogue process?

FEEL

Healing or comfort
Hope or joy
Love or empathy
Inspiration
Belonging or solidarity
Responsibility
Urgency or motivation
Indignation or outrage

Sample statements of purpose for different occasions

Concept: Find **solidarity** in recognizing own experience or values reflected in [new theoretical framework]
Social Issue: Feel **hopeful** regarding the possibility of progress related to [social movement]
Event: Experience **healing** in the wake of [horrific event]
Person/Work: Develop new **empathy** for a specific experience via engagement with [work of art]
Connections: Feel **joy** in the process of reflecting on [aspect of personal history]

THINK or KNOW

Self-awareness
Other-awareness
Issue-awareness
Understand a perspective
Understand a history
Understand a theory
Change their mind
Formulate a truth

Sample statements of purpose for different occasions

Concept: Understand **key terms and major ideas** of [given theory]
Social Issue: Develop initial awareness of how [longstanding social issue] **manifests in present day**
Event: Understand the various different **reactions** to [event]
Person/Work: Become convinced of the importance of [particular person]'s **influence**
Connections: Grow a sense of awareness of one's own **positionality** within [particular community]

DO

Access a resource
Forge a relationship
Make a personal plan
Change a habit
Take political action
Join a specific group
Spread a message
Create something new

Sample statements of purpose for different occasions

Concept: **Apply** [new methodology] in practice in professional or academic context (= spread the message)
Social Issue: **Make a plan** for how each one will address [issue] personally, professionally, or politically
Event: **Seek out** additional information about [specific event] (= access a resource)
Person/Work: **Join a book club** dedicated to similar works
Connections: **Do more journaling** to continue [particular kind of self-reflection] (= change a habit)