Hot Seating Guidelines

Hot Seating is a strategy in which a character or characters, are interviewed by the rest of the group.

Purpose:

> The purpose is to deepen learners' critical thinking and commitment to their characters by displaying a sincere understanding of the characters and the situations, through their presentations.

Preparation:

- Some learners will be Hot Seaters; others will be members of the audience.
- Encourage the audience to ask strong questions that are relevant and within the dramatic situation.
- Learners need to determine:
     - who they are in the interview.
     - where they are (the setting for the interview).
- Hot Seaters will:
     - choose a significant character from the novel.
     - develop an understanding of why they are in the hot seat (the motivation for their words and actions).
- The Audience will:
     - in pairs, prepare questions of morality regarding decisions made/needed to be made by Hot Seaters.
     - choose roles of newspaper journalists trying to find answers, reporters, or other characters from the novel seeking answers.
     - prepare questions from the personal viewpoint of the role they have chosen.
     - research the perspective viewpoint of characters from the novel.

Procedure:

- Hot Seaters Introduce themselves in character, inviting questions from the audience.
- The Audience must also remain in character.
- The Audience will have an opportunity to ask Hot Seaters questions based on the characters chosen.

Reflection:

- How did it feel to step into the character's shoes/embody the character?
- What new insight did you gain about the motivation of the character?
- What are the key factors affecting these characters and their actions?

Adapted from: https://www.dramatoolkit.co.uk/drama-strategies/hot-seating
https://dbp.theatredance.utexas.edu/content/hotseating-0