

## [Teacher's Notes]

### Speed Speaking/ Discussion Prompts

### Religion

These prompts can **also easily be used for group discussions or fluency writing.**

This is one way to manage a Speed Speaking sequence.

- The students line up in 2 rows facing each other. Each student is given a speaking prompt strip. At this time they could ask the teacher for clarification about the meaning.
- One row is designated as READERS and the other row is SPEAKERS
- When the teacher says **“Read & Think,”** students in one row “Read” their prompt to the person facing them.
- The “Speaker” is given **15 seconds to “think”** – plan and formulate the answer.
- After 15 seconds, the teacher calls out **“Speak.”** The Speaker is given **45 second to respond.**
- The cycle is repeated so the “Speaker” now becomes the “Reader”
- After the 2<sup>nd</sup> sequence, the teacher instructs students in one row to move one space to the right.
- Continue the process for as long as you like.
- You can design other procedures, so they needn't ask the same question all the time.

**Words to pre-teach:** euthanasia    persecution    atheists- trenches    karma

Agree or Disagree:

Religion has had a tremendous influence on societies and cultures around the world.

Agree or Disagree:

Religion will be more important to national governments in the future.

Agree or Disagree:

There should be a separation of “Church and State” (Religious & government leaders aren't the same people).

Agree or Disagree:

Parents should allow their children to believe in whatever religion the children choose.

Does your country have a national religion? Explain

Do people have a spirit? What do you think happens to a spirit after a person dies? Explain.

What is the meaning of human life? Why do humans exist? Explain.

What do you think this quote means?

“There are no atheists in the trenches.”

How important is religion in your life? Explain.

In the Catholic Church, priests are not allowed to be married. Do you think this rule should change? Why or why not?

Would you like to go on a “silent retreat”? (This means you might not talk to anyone for 48 hours, for example.) Why or why not?

Agree or disagree:  
I would prefer to live in a country where everyone believes in the same religion.

Agree or disagree:  
It is important for all children to learn about all the major world religions in school.

Agree or disagree:  
I would prefer to marry someone who has the same religious beliefs that I have.

Agree or disagree:  
Schools should not teach about religion. It is the responsibility of the family.

Agree or disagree:  
In Canada, schools and businesses close for Christmas and Easter, which are Christian holy days. They should also close for important Jewish, Buddhist, Hindu and Islamic holy days.

There is a common expression that says, “Religion thrives under persecution.” What does it mean? Do you agree with this?

Most religions have special places to worship. Do you think these places should be open to tourists? Why or why not?

Some people do not agree with euthanasia (mercy killing) because they think it is God’s decision when someone should die. What do you think about this view?

Do you believe in karma ? (the belief that all the good and bad things that you do will have an effect on your future or your next life). Explain.