Discussion methods by GISTE
version 1.5

Made on 6/5/2020 by Rami Rustom (GISTE)

Many links are included within the nodes.

Purple nodes need to be expanded.

Purple connections might need to be relocated.

Red nodes are nodes that have been changed since last version.

Version 1.0
Version 1.1 Criticism by Elliot Temple (curi) in Screencast #51
Version 1.2
Version 1.3
Version 1.4
Version 1.5

How to discuss

Self-discussion and discussion involving other people.

- Methods:
  - Truth-seeking methods:
    - Discussion basics
      - Tips by Elliot Temple:
        - FI Posting Tips
        - Rational Discussion Tips
          - My Rational Discussion Tips
          - **Try things out as learning experiments.**
    - Examples:
      - Example of productive discussion re concrete candy problem.
      - Example of productive philosophy discussion.
    - Advanced discussion stuff.
      - Introductory questions to consider.
      - What topics to prioritize?
        - This FI email explains how to decide for problems you are aware of. The email even explains what to do about problems you aren't aware of.
      - Using Questions in Thinking.
      - How do I involve other people in my self-discussion while maintaining privacy?
        - You can hypotheticalize real life examples, allowing you to involve other people in your self-discussion while maintaining privacy. Details here.
      - Discussion structure
      - Using trees to organize discussions
      - How to account for overreaching?
        - How To Learn Something – With Plans and Steps.
        - Speedrunning is a good way to build up skill at learning things (without overreaching).
          - Speedrunning is a good way to get lots of practice using learning-related skills which you can then use in other projects in your life. Here's my mindmap on Speedrunning as a way to learn philosophy v1.4.
            - Super Mario Odyssey (SMO) is an especially good choice for speedrunning. Why? Because: "[SMO] is a popular, modern game (in general and specifically for speedrunning) which is highly accessible (both for regular play and speedrunning). It has video guides for speedrunning, various speedrunners who stream on Twitch, and plenty of walkthroughs for regular play. It can easily be broken up into small parts to learn about one at a time, and you can practice a few minutes at a time and then pause. It's complex enough to have depth without being too complicated. It doesn't have much randomness or AI to deal with. [...] The any% speedrun is a good length. [...] It's also beneficially if a bunch of philosophy-interested people play the same game so they can discuss it..." (Emphasis added) Read the rest of the blog post here. Also, you can find almost all of my SMO discussion in the comments of the blog post.
      - Pre-Scripted Discussions
      - The Three Discussions Approach
      - Discussion Policy: Quotes or You're Presumed Wrong.
      - Avoiding meta discussion is bad. Question-Ignoring Discussion Pattern.
      - Errors Merit Post-Mortems.
      - Written and Unwritten Rules In Discussions.
        - Improving the world with written discussion rules.
          - What if somebody is wrong, and another person knows why and is willing to explain? This is a solvable problem and it's been solved, as far as I know. See this summary. See this full length essay on Paths Forward and see Elliot's additional thoughts on paths forward. And see my paths forward policy, which is contained in my AP1.
      - Judging experts by the objective state of the debate.
      - Epistemology applies to discussion. See my mindmap on Epistemology v1.0.
      - Integrating your mind. [write blog post]
  - Non truth-seeking methods:
    - What if one person is truth-seeking and the other is sabotaging truth-seeking? How can you tell if that's happening? And what should you do about it?
      - Some people get mad that you're talking about something when they want you to be talking about something else. Like when they think you're having a debate or something like that. [[[[give example]]]][[critical rationalist on discord I think]][[[[get discord link]]]]

        They see it as though you are pressuring them.

        My theory: they think that way (partly?) because they normally do that to people. "that" = pressuring people to answer certain questions.
      - Address it rather than ignoring it. Don't treat someone as though they are being reasonable when they are not being reasonable. [Find link to explain how.]
      - See my FI email explaining how to recognize a good faith vs bad faith communication with easy examples.

- Some background knowledge:
  - Truth exists.
  - People are fallible.
    - A useful way to categorize peoples' worldviews is this: (Note that people are mixed.)
      - Win-win worldview
        - Are there inherent conflicts of interest between people? No. See BOI.
          - Are all problems solvable? Yes. See BOI.
            - Reality-focussed: People should judge in terms of facts/logic/reality instead of judging in terms of the opinions of other people and their social status. When people focus on reality, that is win-win.
              - Attitude to criticism: positive. Takes criticism as help.
                - Puts in much effort to review previous discussion and to read essays/books.
                - Friendly: Open to trying things other people suggest (with reasons).
                - Does not do social attacks, punishment, revenge, shame, etc., because those are known to be counterproductive to win-win goals.
                - Values integrity.
                - Does not do social attacks, punishment, revenge, shame, etc., often without realizing it.
      - Win-lose worldview
        - Are there inherent conflicts of interest between people? Yes
          - Are all problems solvable? No
            - Socially-focussed: Sometimes people judge in terms of the opinions of other people and their social status instead of judging in terms of facts/logic/reality. When people don't focus on reality, that is win-lose.
              - Attitude to criticism: negative. Takes criticism as insult.
                - Puts in little effort to review previous discussion and to read essays/books.
                - Hostile: Not open to trying things other people suggest (with reasons).
                - Doesn't value integrity.
    - Learn from tradition.
    - Mistakes are super common.
      - Misunderstandings are super common because communication is hard.
        - We should try to reduce misunderstandings.
          - We can reduce misunderstandings by using good discussion methods.
            - Meta discussion is good because it helps get you unstuck. What kind of meta discussion? See this FI email.
      - Overreaching is bad. It's counter-productive to life. Overreaching from another perspective.
        - Dialogue about overreaching that clarifies it a bit.
    - Criticism is needed to correct mistakes. A criticism is an explanation of a mistake in an idea.
      - Criticism is contextual.
      - How does criticism connect with conflict, learning, reason?
      - Criticism is good. Why value criticism?
        - Why do many people dislike criticism?
  - How does multiple-person discussion fit in with self-discussion?
    - Purpose of self-discussion: to problem-solve, to further my goals, to make good life choices, to integrate my mind, etc.
      - Purpose of multiple-person discussion: To augment my self-discussion, thus furthering my goals.
        - What if you think that other people want to sabotage your goals?
          - How did you come to that conclusion?
            - Did you try to come up with other possible interpretations, like win-win ones instead of only thinking of win-lose possibilities? Did you rule out the win-win interpretations before concluding a win-lose interpretation? Did you do all of that using only self-discussion instead of also getting help from other people?
              - How do you figure that out?
    - Discussion = thinking. Approximately, "Discussion is externalized thinking. Thinking is self-discussion."
      - People who care about social reality see FI discussion as mean. See explanation here.
        - Social rules for discussion.
  - Why learn philosophy and how? Podcast. Blog post.
    - How to learn philosophy?