

**““One way to assure the health of
a discipline is to nurture
contrasting perspectives.”
Discuss this claim.”**

ToK 11 Spring paper

Unpacking the topic

- “Discipline”
 - * Discipline = AoK? (Ethics)
 - * Discipline = subfield of AoK (ie: physics to natural sciences)
- “Contrasting perspectives” - How you answer the question depends on how you define this concept.
 - * What counts as a legitimate perspective in a given discipline?
 - * How much disagreement is permitted by the rules of the discipline?
 - * What are the rules by which the above question is answered?
- “The health of a discipline”
 - * What is the criteria for determining if a discipline is “healthy?”
- “Nurture contrasting perspectives”
 - * How do disciplines encourage disagreement?

What is meant by the idea that examples must be directly related to a class you are in?

- History - Good
 - * The debate among historians over whether the American founders wrote the Constitution to advance their personal financial interests (Progressive history) or wrote the Constitution as a reflection of values commonly held by all Americans (Consensus history)
- History - Problematic (if arguing affirmatively on the PT)
 - * Holocaust history v. Holocaust denial

What is meant by the idea that examples must be directly related to a class you are in?

- Natural Sciences - Good
 - * The debate among biologists over the specific mechanisms by which evolution leads to species diversity
- Natural Sciences - Problematic (if arguing affirmatively on the PT)
 - * Whether or not evolution leads to species diversity

What possible examples did your groups come up with? Share in group and then be prepared to share with the class.