

SPEAK OUT!

Argument
PhilosophY AND
The banal
DAILY pRaCTICE

speak out!

politics in daily life

This game can be played in a number of different ways,
with any number of players.

Methods of play:

1. Without answer cards.

Shuffle the question cards and place the pile face-down. Take a card from the pile and pose the question to one of the other players (or to yourself if you're the only one playing!). The answer can be short or long, people can respond and ask further questions. When the topic is exhausted another player takes the next card.

2. Game of luck

Make two facedown piles of question and answer cards. The one whose turn it is takes a question card and poses the question to one of the others. This person then has three possible answers: 'yes', 'no' or 'maybe'. 'Maybe' can mean 'sometimes', 'doubtful', 'I don't know' or 'not applicable'. As soon as a clear answer is forthcoming the questioner takes an answer card. If the answer on the card agrees with the answer given, the questioner gets a point. If not, the next player takes a turn. Used cards go to the bottom of the pile.

3. Answerer takes an answer

This is the same as method 2 but now the answerer, not the questioner, takes the answer card. If the answer on the card agrees with the answer given, the answerer gets a point. The answerer may change his opinion but must support his arguments. Make sure that everyone has a turn at answering in each round!

4. Good judgement

Everyone gets three question cards and one answer card. The one whose turn it is picks someone they think will answer one of their three questions according to the answer card they are holding.

Anyone answering merely 'yes', 'no' or 'maybe' can be further questioned (by everyone).
Examples from ones own life can enliven the proceedings! If the answer given agrees with the answer on the card, the questioner gets a point.

5. No maybes

All the 'maybe' cards are taken out of the answer pile: from now on it's 'yes' or 'no'!

6. Keep the score

Everyone is given an answer card. The score-keeper takes a question card and questions one of the others. Everyone with an answer card agreeing with the given answer gets a point.

7. Room for argument

When it's your turn you take a question card and question the person to your left. She will then take an answer card and think how to answer according to the answer on the card. If the answer is convincing the answerer gains a point. The one with the most points wins. The game can last until all the question cards have been used, or can be played for an agreed number of rounds. Make sure this is agreed at the start!

For a more exciting game you can make up your own questions. Have fun!

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Answers:

maybe

yes

no

Questions:

do you consider
personal ownership
bourgeois?

your uncle works
with a unwholesome
multinational and wants to slip
some money into your hands.

could you fall in love
with someone who has
totally different opinions
than you have?

it is convenient for him,
because of taxes and so on.
do you accept?

you are in rather
decent company and
you have to fart.
will you control yourself?

do you think that a world
with only people
like you would be
an ideal world?

do you speak with
your friends frankly
about your love life
(infatuation, making love,
or the absence of it)?

do you find anarchists
nicer people than those
who do not label
themselves that way?

after a busy week
you decide
to have a nice day off.
the moment you sit down
a friend calls and
wants you to visit him.
he feels depressed.
will you go?

do you consider yourself
a person of integrity?

are you totally
insensitive
to social control?

a couple of friends
criticize strongly
the way you deal
with others.
you do not recognize
the criticism.
are you going to work
on it anyway?

a guy asks you
some money for the bus.
you saw him yesterday
doing the same.
do you give
him money?

suddenly you do not
know what to do
with your life anymore.

do you consider
squatting an anarchist act?

are you an
independent thinker?

a very good friend
of yours
is burnt out and for that
can not handle
criticism.
do you spare her?

you know your most
intimate friend will be jealous
when you fall in love
with someone else.
do you take that into account?

do you judge people
in terms of
beautiful and ugly?

do you think that you
give enough effort
to change the world?

in a train you hear
a fellow traveller
talking racist rot.
do you object?

you are vegan
(or vegetarian)
and you have ended up
in prison. it is not
possible to have
a vegan (or vegetarian)
menu.
will you go
on hungerstrike?

do you think that you
give enough effort
to change the world?

do you break down?

at a rally against racism
a right-wing politician
who holds
dubious opinions
is being attacked
with tomatoes.
someone gives
you a tomato.
do you join in?

would you like to be famous?

would you like it
if everybody agreed
with you
broadly spoken?

a close acquaintance
of yours has written
a book which has hints of
sexism in it.
will you tell him?

do you think it is ok
to make love with somebody
you can not talk
very well with?

you get a free ticket
for the zoo.
do you go?

you enter the room
of a good friend who
is not at home
at that moment.
on the table you see
a letter with your name in it.
will you read the letter?

do you aspire
nonviolence in thinking
and acting?

just in front of you
walks a person in
a fur coat.
do you comment on it?

in a train you hear
a fellow traveller
talking racist rot.
do you object?

you have been asked
to give a lecture
on your favorite
subject for an audience
of thousand people.
do you go for it?

this game scares
the hell out of you.
will you tell this
to your fellow players?

do you consider
sexuality an
important subject?

you notice that
someone you know well
gets annoyed by you.
will you start to talk
about it yourself?

the commune you are
living in has a free room.
illegal political refugees
are desperately looking
for rooms.
will you offer them
this room?

do you think of
yourself as
an eccentric?

do you live exuberant?

do you live frugal?

do you have principles?

are you a slave
of your own ideas?

is it important to you
to be part of something?

you are very hungry
and you are offered
something to eat
to which you
object to for political
and emotional reasons
(cheese
for vegans for example).
will you eat it
just for once?

you see a duck
stuck in ice.
no one is around.
will you try to
rescue it?

your girlfriend
is pregnant
and she decides to
have the baby.
do you try to change
her mind?

a friend of yours
who calls himself an
anarchist chooses
not to have a job
and lives well.
having fun, lazing about,
reading, walking,
that is how he wants
to spend his life.
do you object to that?

can you empathize with
people who hold
religious beliefs
(or: have a different belief)?

do you feel yourself
neglected easily?

do you think of
yourself as an anarchist?

do you find you are
living your life to the max?

are you stingy?

do you consider yourself
a philosophical person?

do you have
a strong interest
for other people?

do you think that
hostility belongs to
anarchism
(in the present situation)?

do you believe it
would be
profitable for the world
when everyone agreed
with each other?

a radical-left or anarchist
magazine (that you like)
refuses your article for
the second time.
they think it is rather weak.
will this make you doubt

do you believe
that direct actions are
necessary to
change the world?

the content of your article?

do you consider
squatting an anarchist act?

are you an
independent thinker?

you have had a strong argument
with a close friend.
you have really had it with him.
now he calls you to
invite you over
for a pizza.
do you say yes?

a very good friend
of yours
is burnt out and for that
can not handle
criticism.
do you spare her?

you know your most
intimate friend will be jealous
when you fall in love
with someone else.
do you take that into account?

you borrowed a book

from someone
and you spilt currant juice

on it.

the book is still readable,
but not exactly presentable.

do you feel bad about it?

do you judge people

in terms of
beautiful and ugly?

think up a question
yourself

someone you know very well
left her or his diary
at your place.
do you read it
(without asking)?

your parents consider
your clothes shabby.
does that influence
what you will wear
the next time you will
visit them?

you are annoyed

by one of
your friends. you do not
know exactly why.

do you try

to put it into words

anyhow?

are you informal

with others?

you are talking
to someone you do
not know very well.
snot hangs from
his nose.
do you tell him?