



THE COLOUR GAME

NOTES FOR A ROLE PLAY - INSPIRATION

To spice up an otherwise quite serious matter, a role play to show the diversity between the four qualities/characters represented by the colours is a good idea, to enhance learning. Role playing serve the purpose of giving examples, that people can identify with - it also offers a shared reference for the group.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR ROLE PLAY

You will show a short drama, representing the four different qualities.
Wear something in the respective colors, maybe just a paper, to show which character you are playing.

NOTE: If you are two facilitators, first do RED and GREEN together, then BLUE and YELLOW.

INSTRUCTION TO FACILITATOR:

Approach:

PLAY OUT your role, OVERDO IT, to show the differences between the characters. Play them in extremes.
Show the core characteristic/stereotypical features. Know the other colour types, so you can relate your role to them – you can play ‘against’ them to bring life to your role.

Example:

RED says it is most important that we all feel good.

GREEN continues and say: No, it is more important that we reach our set goals!

YELLOW says: Ohh, we can always change if something new and exciting comes up.

BLUE says: No, we should always stick to the original vision and align to that.

Use the room, practically and play with yourselves:

GREEN organizes things, makes a new list of something, create systems.

BLUE goes to the poster with expectations and start reflecting/thinking, finding patterns.

(GREEN comes and say: Well, what can we DO? Stop thinking to much – we need to get to action!)

RED goes to a person and asks – gently attentive and a bit worried – if he/she is fine and okay?

YELLOW will reorganize the entire room or suggest to go outside. Blue says: Is that part of the intention?

GREEN says: How will this fit at all, we will be late for the programme! Is worried about time.

RED says: Have you asked the group what they want, to feel safe and comfy here?

TIP FOR FACILITATOR:

If you are really not fond of role playing, you can choose just to tell about the specific colour characteristics, instead. Some aspects of each are inserted before examples of sentences to use for the roleplay, for each type. Develop your own way of doing this part, invent your own examples, practices, words to explain. Then it works!

THE FOUR TYPES - RED AND BLUE

THE RED QUALITY - CHARACTERISTICS

Getting into the role/understanding the nature of this stereotypical RED character, who:

- Ask questions, cares about peoples individual needs, challenges etc. (often before community needs).
- Needs recognition and is good in recognizing others for the efforts, contributions, 'beings'.
- Values joint activities, social activities and having fun together: "if it's not fun, it's not sustainable".
- Arranges sharing circles in the group. The emotional side is as important as the practical.
- Cares for people: "what are you plans for the next three months?", "how busy are we?", "maybe it is too much right now?"
- Enjoys and embarks on private sharings, involving members/participants as people with their unique personal backgrounds.
- Builds a team spirit/builds a community. Important to get to know the others well and not just focus on content matters.
- Likes to arrange group processes with a lot of sharings, body works, massages etc.

Sentences to use during roleplay:

- For me, it's important that people have a good time.
- If somebody is not really being heard, it's very important to let them speak.
- I think we should have a group process in a circle if someone has a problem in the group
- Offering massages to each other could ease the tension.
- Let's make sure we can all see each other. It's sad if a chair is missing for someone or we can not have eye contact.
- If we have empty seats, it will also make me uncomfortable.
- The process is much more important to me than what we achieve. We must feel good about what we do and how.
- I think it's very important that we have a 'heart keeper' team, when we have meetings.
- Time in 'family groups' in the community is very important. We need to support each other and feel supported.
- We should have personal mood check ins whenever we start something new. Inner weather forecasts.
- We should always be in touch with our emotional side. That is very important.
- I feel... something in the energy here... in the group. Something that affects my whole system, body and mind.

THE BLUE QUALITY - CHARACTERISTICS

Getting into the role/understanding the nature of this stereotypical BLUE character, who:

- Recognizes that every new member must read through all the background materials about the community before they start.
- Suggests that induction should be planned over 3 months for newcomers to work and live aligned with community values.
- Knows that it is important to know about gender issues within the group. Why do we attract most female members? How does that issue influence our learning space? What patterns do we reproduce here? What does it take from each of us to bring awareness to these matters? These aspects are SO interesting to the BLUE character!
- Stresses the importance that a person suggesting a new proposal must explain its purpose. It is very important to reason why we do things before we do them.
- Often becomes part of the community board, council or vision committee.

Sentences to use during roleplay:

- You take this and this and this (handing out big files of text) before you come to the first community meeting. Then you know all about why we exist, our background and vision/mission statements.
- As a community, issues of rank and privilege are very important matters to bring awareness to. I have a model that explains. Then we seek inspiration among the best, as I have researched it well and know the different 'school of thoughts'.
- Our vision and mission have to be presented in a very concise way to newcomers and external people, for them to know exactly what we stand for and why we are here. There is symbolism in even our logo and the way we present ourselves.
- Our logo needs to express who we are. Even the way we design our website will give us the brand of a niche phenomena if we do not take care. Matters of exclusion/inclusion are very interesting!

THE FOUR TYPES - GREEN AND YELLOW

THE GREEN QUALITY - CHARACTERISTICS

Getting into the role/understanding the nature of this stereotypical GREEN character, who:

- Will organize a Google folder to organize shared work. In a smart way, so everyone can contribute, knowing the exact difference between Dropbox, Google drive etc. Maybe adding Asana or Trello?
- Can quickly organize a list of working groups so everyone knows what others are doing ... and what we must do.
- Will make the daily program/agenda nicely. It must be on the wall, to create overview! Will find the masking tape in the practical box with materials, installed at its regular place, right there in the corner, where it is supposed to be.
- Arranges the comprehensive welcome package as a structure of how to welcome new people, with all the important practicalities included.
- Oversees formal procedures of how to get refunds for any purchases etc.
- Often takes the role as a treasurer or is leading the garden group.

Sentences to use during roleplay:

- The agenda - and note books - pens - should be ready for each meeting. I will do that.
- Let's make sure all items are purchased in time before the communal labour day, so we can be effective.
- If you need it tomorrow, better tell me today, so I am well prepared with my tasks.
- I can make a schedule for the new working group, will quickly make a new folder for this and a doodle to find a time!
- I will suggest we all use the smartest digital tools to arrange processes - trello, doodle, dropbox, google. I can make a folder structure and organize things, so we can always find them! I will do it so nobody messes with my system! I volunteer to take minutes as I like it 'my way'.
- It's important that things work. If I have a problem with a printer, I make sure it's fixed, so everything will work! Also, I will put up an instruction and the phone number of who to call, in case of facing problems.
- I will connect to the caretakers, the kitchen group, the garden team etc. I always know who does what and will be in charge of reminding us of all decisions taken.
- I am the one to arrange the chairs for the meeting, way before time. And make sure we have a trash box for paper and another for general trash. I have an eye for detail - and I like it!

THE YELLOW QUALITY - CHARACTERISTICS

Getting into the role/understanding the nature of this stereotypical YELLOW character, who:

- Is constantly in the danger of entering the 'critical zone', can be offensive or letting others go where they do not feel safe.
- Will establish an open comment box, remaining open minded to new ideas.
- Suggests an initiative pool as new suggestions are always welcome. The green field, the land of opportunity, is important.
- Gives attention to recruiting new members of the group with different backgrounds/profiles and find new ways of recruiting and a desire to include all kinds of people. Is not afraid, do not worry too much and does not look for harmony and peace, but rather diversity, challenge and inspiration.
- Is often happy person, full of initiative, but can also overlook other peoples needs and becomes impatient if others are slow.

Sentences to use during roleplay:

- I am the one who always make sure we try out new things. Never stagnate, always develop, explore, experiment!
- Nothing should be set as it has always been - it might get boring! All is up for negotiation!
- I think we should have a new energizer each time we meet - to spark inspiration!
- Let's challenge the structures and make something new!
- The others are too slow and conservative! I get restless and lose interest...
- I think I move to a place where they are more open to change...