Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**DM**

**Social Media**

**Scored Discussion**

The 4 Guiding Questions for this unit on social media must be referenced and reflected throughout our research:

1. What are the social and psychological effects of social media?
2. What are the economic effects of social media?
3. What are solutions to any problems associated with social media?
4. What is the future of social media?

Part 1: We will research the guiding questions through group and individual work. First we watched a news segment and read an article written by the co-founder of Facebook, Sean Parker. He thinks that Facebook takes advantage of our vulnerabilities in order to make money. Then we had a short Socratic Seminar on our findings. Next you will listen to a podcast about social media. It is an episode of the podcast series *Hidden Brain*, titled *Schadenfacebook.* While listening to the podcast, you will pause, rewind, replay, and read the transcript in order to take notes and write answers to the following research questions. Sometimes you will need to pause the podcast and reflect on your own media usage in order to answer these questions. Instead of typing up your answers into a cohesive research paper, you will write down your answers and use them in a Scored Discussion.

1. What kind of posts did Rachel share AND NOT SHARE on social media? Explain with many supporting details.
2. “More and more, Rachel found that she was turning to social media for validation. She wanted confirmation from her social media feed that her life was on track.” Go back and listen to this again. Describe what you think this means with at least 3 supporting details.
3. “The unhappier Rachel felt, the more she posted.” Why do you think that she would do the opposite of what she really felt? Explain with many supporting details.
4. What happened to Rachel when she viewed other peoples’ lives on Facebook (“The grass was always greener for everyone else”)? Explain with many supporting details.
5. Describe the personal messages she received once she “broke her spell” and posted a little more honestly about her life.
6. Tel Aviv Universty sought out to prove whether time spent on Facebook *made* people feel worse (causation) or if it is just a correlation. Describe the study and all of the different findings of the study. What does research and data show about hours spent on social media and happiness?
7. “You need to prove yourself to yourself over and over again.” Describe what this means. Explain with many supporting details.
8. What is FOMO? Explain with many supporting details.
9. Why do people experience FOMO? Explain with many supporting details.
10. What is the ending of Rachel’s story?
11. Compare yourself to people in this podcast. Do you post only your perfect stories online? Do you edit out the ugly? Explain.
12. Compare yourself to people in this podcast. What emotions do you feel when you see other peoples’ social media posts and activity? Describe several examples of your experiences and emotions with supporting details.
13. Describe several examples of either you or your friends experiencing FOMO.
14. Do you think these social and psychological problems exist before social media? If you answered yes, then what are your opinions on social media’s impact on our psychological and social well-being? If you answered no, then what are your opinions on the effects of social media on our psychological and social well-being?

Part 2: You will find ONE news article. The news must come from only a reliable, English language source. Find an article that supports your personal opinions on social media, whether you are for it, against it, or both. You will read through your article and then write answers to research questions on the next page. You will share ideas from your articles in the Scored Discussion.

Part 3: Complete the Scored Discussion. Thorough directions and demonstrations will be provided before we begin.

Part 4: After the Scored Discussion, you will complete a series of questions about your thoughts on this project. These questions will be provided later.

**Grading Rubric**

1. Research the podcast: 7 points
2. Research and write about an article that backs up your viewpoint on social media: 4 points
3. Conduct the Scored Discussion: 9 points
4. Complete the post-seminar forum on the class website: 5 points (graded separately)

Total out of 20: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Article Research

Title:

Publication:  
Author:

Date:

URL:

1. I see: Summarize the interesting facts. Write the who, what, where, when, & why from your article. Write about the beginning, middle, but especially the end. What are new things you learned from this source? Must be innovative, exciting, and thought-provoking.
2. I think: Analyze the content, determine cause and effect, compare and make connections to things you already know. Think critically and engage analytically in the content. Maybe try to accurately predict the future or offer solutions to a problem. Describe the symbolism, the hidden messages or meanings.
3. I wonder: Design a creative, intelligent, and challenging question to engage you and your classmates. What do you wonder about when viewing this source?
4. Answer the challenging question you posed above in #3. Your answer must provide several supporting details.