

# Value ranking

"Who would be a better president?"

<b>Goals</b>	Support for the ability to think analytically, emphasis on the acceptance of plurality of opinions, guidance for mutual tolerance and support for self-confidence, support for the creation of value rankings
<b>Duration</b>	10 minutes
<b>Difficulty</b>	2nd grade of elementary school
<b>Tools and space</b>	Blackboard and stationary, seminar room suitable for group size

## Structure of the educational situation

- Before starting the seminar, on the blackboard we write the main research question "Who would be a better monarch/statesman?" Then we list 8-10 statements that characterize human qualities or abilities that can be decisive for the idea of an ideal monarch/statesman. Students can be given individual statements in written form in advance.
- Subsequently, we invite students to create their own value ladder based on established claims. At the same time, however, we also encourage them to invent one characteristic that is not on the list and in their opinion is more important.
- After a short discussion by the students, we step in front of the board and urge the students to vote on the most important characteristic. We read the individual claims and recalculate the student votes according to the raised hands, or we can use the electronic form of voting via the Mentimeter application. We add the obtained votes to the board for the individual claims and evaluate the activity.
- At the end there is a brief discussion when the statement with the highest number of votes is subject to critical reflection (e.g. "Why do you think that the art of listening is a more important prerequisite for a ruler than the fact that he or she inspires respect in others?" At the same time, we ask the students about their other suggestions.

## Modification of the seminar

- In case there is sufficient time, we can evaluate the least valuable characteristic of the ideal monarch/statesman in the same way. The resulting claims can again be subject to controlled discussion.
- High school students, in particular, can assign specific historical or contemporary figures to individual claims that they think best represent a given characteristic.

## Methodological notes

As suggestions for the question "Who would be a better monarch/statesman?" one of the options below can be used. The presented suggestions can of course also be modified and simplified towards application in the teaching at the 1st grade of the elementary school.

- Who is decisive?
- Who is physically fit?
- Who can speak loudly?
- Who looks good?
- Who is kind?
- Who commands respect?
- Who is smart?
- Who is empathetic?
- Who doesn't lie?
- Who is righteous?

The educator can also devise his or her own characteristics, which can be adapted for the needs of more specific research challenges, especially for high school students, e.g. "Who would be a better monarch in the Middle Ages?", "Who would be the best president for Czech/Slovak/Polish society?"

## Conclusion

- Finally, we will give students time to evaluate the course of the activity and provide them with additional information. We will invite students to provide additional ideas and suggestions for the activity.