

Connect Program Final Report

Main activities and group dynamics:

The objectives for the final week of the program to encourage students to lead thought-provoking discussions about the global and social challenges that they find important, consider how they can play an active role in addressing the issues they discussed throughout the program, and reflect on the dialogue process. Some students discussed current events, values and norms while others shared thoughts about stereotypes and cultural misunderstanding. Facilitators shared several instances where students were listening to each other actively, asking excellent questions and showing support one another as they spoke of their respective differences. After they closed the discussions, participants took time to reflect on the group process and shared thoughts about how they learned from each other's backgrounds.

By the end of the session, students participated in recognition activity and typed the name of peers that impacted them. This activity was an opportunity for students to show appreciation and gratitude towards each other and to end the program on a positive and emotional note. Most groups also took time to reflect on the final takeaways from the semester.

Last week, most facilitators rated the sessions as "Good" or "Excellent". Most facilitators described the final sessions as insightful and dynamic. By the end of the session, students exchanged their contact information and expressed a desire to continue the dialogues and stayed in the training room longer to talk further.

Attendance and technical updates:

The absence rate for the final week of the program was relatively low and most students were able to attend their sessions. Thank you so much for your constant support and for reminding your students of the importance of attendance throughout the semester.

On the technical front, no major issues were reported. In the exception of some students who faced internet issues, most participants were able to login and attend. Our technical support team was available to assist students who might have faced issues.

Highlights and key dates:

Now that students have completed their sessions, their priority is to submit the final projects by **December 7th**. Thank you so much for reminding your students to submit their projects to submit@soliya.net and Cc you.

Students should also complete online evaluation of the Connect Program by **December 10th**.