Repeating Game

ACTIVITY: ‘REPEATING GAME’

TIME: 15+ minutes
SIZE: Pairs in front of class/large groups
SPACE: For pairs to sit and others to observe
RESOURCES: Nil

The aim is for students to think about unique qualities in another person.
The result should be an appreciation that each of us is unique and has his or her own interests and value systems.

1. Break the class into pairs, or bring a demonstration pair to the front of the class.
2. Pair/s sit opposite one another in a calm, respectful mood.
3. One student starts: he/she will offer an observation about the other to do with qualities they think the other is likely to have. For instance: ‘You look like you’d be polite to strangers.’
4. The opposite student should now either agree or disagree, e.g. ‘I am polite to strangers, and you look like you think deeply about things’.
5. Guidance may be needed to ensure the observations don’t become critical or dissolve into laughter.
6. The first student then agrees or disagrees and responds with a second observation, e.g. ‘I don’t really think too deeply about things, and you look like you enjoy being outdoors’.
7. The round continues until you decide fruitful observations have been made, or when students run out of steam.

DISCUSSION SUGGESTIONS

• What does this activity suggest about the old saying, ‘You can’t judge a book by its cover’?
• For those who were in pairs, how hard was it to guess qualities about your partner? Did it get harder or easier as the round progressed? Why might that be?
• For those who were in pairs, how did it feel to have somebody making observations about your qualities?
• How did it feel to repeat aloud your partner’s observations about you? Did that affect your Sense of Self-worth? How?
• Was it uncomfortable to repeat aloud observations made about you? Why/whynot?
• Observers: What did you notice about the activity? In what way was the activity like real/everyday life?
• If you were to do the activity in the mirror, what would you say?