Spiderweb discussion rubric

Because this is a team effort, there will be a team grade. **The whole class will get the SAME grade.**
This is what you need to do, as a class, to earn an A. A truly hard-working, analytical discussion in which:

Does this describe our discussion?	Not really	Sometimes	Definitely
Everyone has participated in a meaningful and substantive way and, more or less, equally			
There is a sense of balance and order. The focus is on one speaker at a time and one idea at a time. The discussion is lively, and the pace is right (not too fast or slow).			
The discussion builds. There is an attempt to resolve questions and issues before moving on to new ones. Big ideas and deep insights are not brushed over or missed.			
The discussion focusses on the central question and does not head too far down irrelevant side-tracks.			
Comments are not lost. The loud or particularly talkative do not dominate and the shy or quiet are encouraged.			
Students listen carefully and respectfully to one another. There is no talking, daydreaming, rustling papers, making faces, using phones or laptops, etc. when someone else is speaking (this communicates disrespect and undermines the discussion as a whole.) Same goes for sarcastic, glib or insensitive comments.			
Everyone is clearly understood. Those who are not heard or understood are urged to repeat themselves.			
Students take risks and dig for **deep meaning**, new insights.			
Students back up what they say with **examples and quotations** regularly throughout the discussion. Thoughts and notes from topic summary sheets and/or relevant articles are read from out loud OFTEN to support arguments.			
Specific **economic vocabulary** and ideas are paid special attention and mention. Arguments refer to sound understanding of economic theory and not merely opinion. Technical vocabulary is used often, and clearly and correctly explained if someone is uncertain what it means.			

The class will earn an **A** by doing all of this at an impressively high level (which is rare and difficult!). The class will earn a **B** by doing most things on this list (a pretty good discussion). The class will earn a **C** for doing half or slightly more than half of what's on this list. The class earns a **D** by doing less than half of what's on the list. The class earns an **F** if the discussion is a real mess or a complete dud and virtually nothing on this list is accomplished or genuinely attempted.
Unprepared or unwilling students will bring the group down as a whole. Please remember this as you read, take notes on, and prepare for class discussion.