We don’t know how to listen . . . preferring snappy retorts over respectful understanding.

From press room to classroom, conversation emerges from a “winning is everything” mindset. Rejecting this mindset is essential for both learning and productive dialogue. The rejection begins with five powerful discourse rules that are the practical application of the Countdown.

In a world where news is “fake,” tweets are “truth,” and the meanings of claims are increasingly unmoored from history, such a tool is a must for every educator, student, and would-be citizen.

About the Presenter
BJ Kurle is a mentor, educator, coach, advocate, and writer who strives to champion intellectual honesty by both written word and living example. With a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Purdue and extensive graduate work in both Philosophy and TESOL from Gonzaga, Dr. Kurle has been teaching and mentoring students from various backgrounds since 1997, at Metropolitan Community College since 2013. The nature and abuse of language has been a lifelong interest for Dr. Kurle, and in her quest to understand how linguistic abuse works, she developed the Countdown as a tool for immunizing oneself against discourse abuse.

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