# Agriculture Education
## Cycle Theme: Transcendence
## Seminar Clustered Questions: Erdkinder Essay

**Bridge Question**

- Write about a peaceful experience you had in nature. Be descriptive and go into detail about the weather, any plants or animals that were nearby and what about the experience was memorable to you.

**Opening Question**

- The author promotes the idea that adolescents should live in the country "as much as possible in fresh air for a period of at least two years" (62). Why would the author consider this to be a good place for adolescents to develop?

**Cluster #1 Core Questions (Theme: Adolescence)**

- The author states that during adolescence "the human organism becomes fragile and delicate" (pg. 61). Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?
- In the first sentence the author writes that puberty is a "critical and very delicate period". Do you agree with this statement? Justify your answer with the reading and your own life experience.
- There is a reference made to a high rate of illness in adolescents (61). Why do you think the author would make this point? Do you agree? Justify your answer with a reference to the text.
- Consider your favorite foods. Does your diet match the ideal that is presented on page 62? ("absolutely non-toxic and rich in vitamins").

**Cluster #2 Core Questions (Theme: Nature Based Education)**

- If you were placed in a "rural environment" (62) for two years what activities would you do to mature into a young adult? Why did you choose these activities?
- There is a list of recommended physical exercises at the top of page 64. These activities focus on limiting any strain on "the lungs and the heart" (64). What activities do you like to do that aren't on the list? Why do you think they are not listed?

**Cluster #3 Core Questions (Theme: Transcendence)**

- The author states that adolescence is "the period in which the conscience is developed and the need for a spiritual life is felt most intensely" (64). Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?
- The author states that during puberty "the human soul by nature opens itself to love" (64). How can this emotion become a strong influence in your life?
- We are in a time of great technological advancement. Our society has benefited from all of the work that humans have done over many generations. The author states that adolescents "become sensible to the greatness of man and to civilization…[feeling] drawn to find a great aim in life, to prove [themselves] by assuming a responsibility" (64). Does this feeling excite or overwhelm you? Explain your answer.

**Closing Question/Wrap Around**

- How can an adolescent living in the city mature into a responsible adult? Give an example of a life practice that can be used by urban dwellers that closely matches the ideas in the article.