Small group conversation prompts

The following prompts can be used in a small group discussion practice, with the goal of support students developing a sense of community. These discussions can be brief, can be held in groups of 3-5, and prompts can be used to begin your class together and “warm” student participation.

*Prompts 1-18 were shared by Dr. Camisha Russell, Associate Professor in Philosophy at UO.*

1. What is your hometown?
2. What is a favorite hobby of yours?
3. Share your favorite movie
4. What is one of your favorite desserts?
5. What is the most interesting class you have this term?
6. What is the best thing about the place you live now?
7. Tell us about your ideal pet
8. Where is the best study place in Eugene/on campus?
9. What is your favorite hot drink?
10. What famous person would you want to have a hot drink with?
11. What is your favorite time of year in the place of your choice?
12. Tell us about your favorite water-related activity
13. What are you looking forward to over break?
14. What is something you wish you could cook?
15. What TV series would you choose to watch if on a desert island?
16. What are your favorite pizza toppings?
17. What is the most useful app on your phone?
18. What would the most useful skill be, post-apocalypse?
19. Where have you lived?
20. What is one thing you’ve done during the last year to help you feel physically, mentally, or emotionally more positive (this can be big, or small, silly or serious)?
21. Who inspires you and why?
22. What is one thing you want your peers to know about you?
23. What is one thing you want to know about your peers?
24. Why did you choose this class?
25. What is your dream job?
26. If you could have any super-hero power what would it be and why?
27. What is your favorite free time activity?
28. If you could live in a fictional town (book/tv/movie), where would it be?
29. What is the best bad TV show?
30. What’s your favorite “life hack”?
31. Describe one strange thing about your hometown.
32. When you cook for yourself, what is your go-to?
33. If you have a pet, what is one of their eccentric behaviors?
34. If you had to be on a reality/game show, which would it be?
35. What is the most under-rated snack?
36. If your life was made into a movie, what’s at least one song/artist that would be on the soundtrack?