

My Bachelor final paper describes the possibilities and limits of using chosen dialogue methods in adult education. Chapter One explores the contents and etymology of the concepts of dialogue, discussion, debate and method. Chapter Two places dialogue methods within the context of adult education methodology, names some theoretical reasons for their existence and mentions a couple of common techniques. Chapters Three to Five each introduce one complex system of methods based on dialogue; Socratic dialogue in the Nelson-Heckmann tradition, academic debating and Open Space Technology. Each chapter initially states the origin and philosophical background of the method in question, then explains how the method usually operates and eventually discusses its chances of being used in everyday adult education. Chapter Six compares the three previously described methods. Chapter Seven contains a description and an analysis of the theory of dialogue education by the American adult educator Jane Vella. The chapter also offers some case studies that illustrate the theory.