EXAMPLE OF INTERACTION ANALYSIS DIAGRAM

Note: Interaction Analysis Diagram may be completed but is not required.

1. The Interaction Analysis Diagram is a visual display of the communication patterns among the group members, including the tutor. As group discussion occurs, the observer documents the flow of the discussion and indicates the group members’ involvement in the discussion. This process does not measure the quality of the communication, but does provide insight into the quantity of discourse and indicates the most active group members.

2. The Interaction Analysis Diagram may be created in PowerPoint, SmartDraw, or other software. It may also be drawn neatly by hand.

3. A unidirectional arrow between two boxes indicates who initiated the exchange and to whom it was directed. If a group member directed a comment to the group, the arrow would be directed to the middle of the diagram, rather than to one individual. This diagram can be useful in identifying the development of dyads or triads in the group interaction or, for the tutor, if he/she is engaging in greater discourse with several individuals rather than the group as a whole.

4. The type of communication, whether the initiator was seeking clarification, clarifying, interrupting, disagreeing, agreeing, suggesting, or seeking suggestion could be noted and discussed with the tutor.