Agonism: An Automatic Antagonistic Stance  
Annotated Bibliography

Boroditsky gives compelling examples that challenge the common perception that thought and language are separate, which can be used as a contrast to the Napoli selection below. Boroditsky demonstrates with many clear examples how our thoughts and behavior are shaped by the language we use.

McManus discusses surviving participation in the democratic agon. This challenging academic paper is available on Academic Search Premiere.

Moffett explains how ant colony organization is similar to human military tactics. He describes similarities in brutality, rivalry for territory or food, allocation of resources, and troop loyalty. An html version is available on Academic Search Premiere.

In Chapter 4, Napoli examines whether having thought depends on having language. An undercurrent of the issue is whether or to what degree language shapes and/or determines our thoughts, a question that is also examined in Boroditsky, above.

Ong defines agonism. This book has influenced Tannen’s work.

Pinker dissects the perception that we are becoming an increasingly violent society; a possible contrast to Tannen. This short online presentation could be viewed in class.

In chapter 17, Rogers offers listening strategies that would be applicable to classroom discussions. The chapter ends with Roger’s idea that these strategies would help prevent war.

Staeheli reviews recent research on the role that disorder plays in fostering democracy. This challenging academic paper is available on Academic Search Premiere.
Tannen, Deborah. “Fighting for Our Lives” *The Argument Culture*. Tannen presents her thesis that our culture is steeped in war talk which affects our thinking. This chapter could be used to define agonism as an automatic antagonistic stance. Tannen was influenced by Ong. This is an easy popular read, but long; I’ve had Comp 126 read this in several sections before.

Tannen, Deborah. “What Other Ways are There?: Listening to Other Cultures” *The Argument Culture* Chapter 7. This is an easy, popular read.