

Name: Class:	
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Discussion Sentence Starters

Entering the Conversation

- An idea I have is...
- I noticed that...
- I can't stop thinking about...
- I'm wondering...
- That reminds me of the book, _____, where...
- A theory I'm developing is...

Supporting Ideas with Evidence / Examples

Providing Examples	Asking Group Mates for Examples
For example	Can you give evidence from the text?
 In the text it said that 	Where does it say that?
 One case that illustrates this is 	• What is a real-world example?
 Remember in the story we read that 	What's an example of that idea?
I can prove this becauseOne example from my life is	

Paraphrasing

- You just said that...
- To paraphrase what you just said...
- Let me see if I heard you right. You said...
- What I understood was...
- In other words, you're saying that...
- It sounds like you think that...
- I'm hearing that...



Building on and Challenging

Building on & Challenging	Asking Group Mates to Build on
Building off of what you said,	How can we add to the idea of?
Adding onto what said,I agree with, and I want to add	 What other ideas or examples relate to this idea?
That idea connects to	 What else could support this idea? Why or why not?
 I found another example of what brought up on page 	What contradicts this idea?
 I noticed some of the same things that did, but I also thought I respectfully disagree with because I see it slightly differently because I can see your point, but 	 What are other points of view?
 Looking at it from a different perspective, I think 	

Elaborating and Clarifying

Elaborating and Clarifying	Asking for Elaboration/Clarification
I think it means	What do you mean by?
In other words	Can you clarify the part about?
 More specifically it is 	• Can you elaborate on the part about?
 It's important because 	Tell me more about
 What I mean to say is 	How is that important?
 It affects readers by 	 Can you reword what you just said about?
	Can you be more specific?

Synthesizing Conversation

Synthesizing & Summarizing	Asking for Synthesis / Summary
We can say that	What have we discussed?
We can agree that	How can we summarize our points?
Even though some might think we	What's our conclusion?
conclude that	 What's the main point we want to
 It all boils down to 	communicate?