

Academic Conversations

Elaborate and Clarify

Prompts:

- Can you elaborate on...
- What does that mean?
- What do you mean by...
- Can you clarify the part about...
- Tell me more about....
- How is that important? How does it support your point that...
- I understand the part about...but I want to know...
- Can you be more specific?

Support Ideas with Examples



Prompts:

- Can you give an example from the text?,
- Where does it say that?
- What are examples from other texts?
- What is a real-world example? Are there any cases of that in real life?,
- Can you give an example from your own life?

Paraphrase

Prompts:

- Is that clear?
- Can I hear what you heard?,
- Does that make sense?,
- Do you know what I mean?,
- What do you think?
- I'm not sure of all that I said.

Synthesize

Prompts:

- How can we summarize what we discussed?
- What have we discussed?
- How can we bring these ideas together?
- What is the main point we want to communicate after discussing this?,
- What is our conclusion?

Build on and/or Challenge Ideas

Prompts:

- How can we add this idea of...,
- What other ideas or examples relate to this idea?
- What else could support this idea?
- Do you agree?, What contradicts this?
- What are other points of view?

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Elaborate and Clarify

Response Starters:

- I think it means...
- In other words,...
- More specifically, it is....because...
- Let's see, an analogy might be...
- It is important because...

Support Ideas with Examples



Response Starters:

- For example...
- In the text is said that...
- Remember in the other story we read that...
- An example from my life is...
- One case that illustrates this is...

Paraphrase

Response Starters:

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

Synthesize

Response Starters:

- We can say that...
- It boils down to...
- We can agree that...
- Even though some might think that..., we conclude that...

Build on and/or Challenge Ideas

Response Starters:

- I would add that...
- Building on your idea that..., I think...
- That idea connects to...
- I see it a different way...
- Let's stay focused on the idea of...
- Let's get back to the idea of...
- That makes me think of...That reminds me of...
- On the other hand...
- I'm hearing that...

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