

Resources To Try When Leveling Up Student-Led Conversations

Sentence Starter Examples	Question Examples
<p style="text-align: center;">I agree because ...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I have a similar answer that ...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I see it differently because ...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I thought about it like ...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Additionally ...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">However ...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">That makes me think ...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I can connect that to ...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Similarly ...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">In comparison ...</p>	<p>Clarify Understanding: Help me understand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do you mean by ...? Can you give an example? Where did you find that in the text? <p>Challenge Thinking: Push the idea a little deeper.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can you explain why ...? What evidence supports ...? How does this connect to ...? <p>Get More Information: Tell me more.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why do you think that happened? What other examples can you add? Is this what you expected?
Conversation Signals	Modeling Expectations
<p>Thumbs up: I agree with what you are saying and would like to add my own thinking.</p> <p>Thumbs down: I saw this differently and would like to share my thoughts.</p> <p>1 Finger: I have a connection I would like to share.</p> <p>2 Fingers: I have evidence that supports your thoughts.</p>	<p>Role-Play: Choose 4 volunteers to model a conversation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a short script with sample questions. Ask a few students to read it out loud as a model. While they watch, have the class write down the questions they hear. <p>Structured Small Groups: Put students in groups of four. Give each student a number (1–4).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Answers the question and starts the discussion 2: Adds on to the answer 3: Asks a clarifying question 4: Asks a question to challenge or learn more Next time, switch roles so everyone gets to try each one.