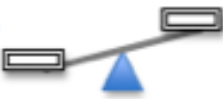


Constructive Conversation Skills Resources

**Constructive Conversation Skills Poster**


**Evaluate & Compare**  
(If more than 1 Idea)



*Prompt starters:*  
How can we decide which is the more \_\_\_ idea?  
How does evidence for your argument compare to mine?  
What criteria do we use to evaluate the weight of the evidence?  
How do we compare "apples" of ... to the "oranges" of...?  
Which has the heaviest/ strongest evidence?  
What is your opinion? Why?  
How might we take the best from both ideas?  
How is that evidence stronger than this evidence?

*Response starters:*  
I think we should use the criteria of ... because...  
\_\_\_ is very strong evidence because...  
A point of disagreement that I have is...  
Even though it seems that...  
That is a valid point, but...  
I think the negatives of... outweigh the positives of ...


**Create**



*Prompt starters:*  
What is your idea?  
How can we combine these ideas?  
What do we need to do?  
What are other points of view?  
What do you think about...?  
Why...How...I wonder...

*Response starters:*  
One idea could be ...  
My hypothesis is...  
That reminds me of...  
I noticed the pattern of...  
I think it depends on...

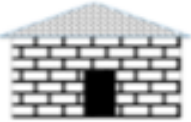
**Clarify**



*Prompt starters:*  
Can you elaborate on the...?  
What does that mean?  
What do you mean by...?  
Can you clarify the part about...?  
Say more about...  
Why... How...What...When...  
How is that important?  
I understand the part about... but I want to know...  
Can you be more specific?  
Is what I just said clear?  
Does that make sense?  
Do you know what I mean?  
What do you think?  
I'm not sure if I was clear.

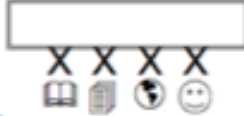
*Response starters:*  
I think it means...  
In other words,  
More specifically, it is ... because...  
An analogy might be...  
It is important because...  
Let me see if I heard you right...  
To paraphrase what you just said, you...  
In other words, you are saying that...  
What I understood was...  
It sounds like you think that...  
It all boils down to...  
A different way to say it...

**BUILD IDEA(s)**



(& if >1 Idea, Choose 1)

**Fortify/Support**



*Prompt starters:*  
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 life?  
What is the strongest support for...?  
How does it support the idea?

*Response starters:*  
For example, in the text it said that...  
Remember in the other story we read that...  
An example from my life is  
One case that illustrates this is...  
Strong supporting evidence

© Zwiers, O'Hara, & Pritchard (2014)  
Common Core Standards in diverse classrooms:  
Essential practices for developing academic language and disciplinary literacy.  
Stenhouse Publishers | [ALDNetwork.org](http://ALDNetwork.org)

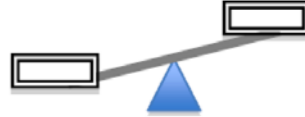
**Listening Task for CREATE:**

1. Did each partner state his/her ideas?
2. Did they take turns sharing their ideas?
3. Did they stay on topic?
4. Did they build on each other's ideas?



**Listening Task for NEGOTIATE:**

1. Did each partner state his/her ideas?
2. Did they take turns sharing their ideas?
3. Did they consider all the ideas?
4. Did they stay on topic?
5. Did they build on each other's ideas?
6. Did they come to a consensus?



**Listening Task for CLARIFY:**

1. Did each partner state his/her ideas?
2. Did they take turns sharing their ideas?
3. Did they make their ideas clearer?
4. Did they stay on topic?
5. Did they build on each other's ideas?



**Listening Task for FORTIFY:**

1. Did each partner state his/her ideas?
2. Did they take turns sharing their ideas?
3. Did they support their ideas with evidence?
4. Did they stay on topic?
5. Did they build on each other's ideas?

