

State an Idea/Opinion



What is your opinion
about_____?

What's your perspective? How
can we answer this?

State an Idea/Opinion



I believe that...

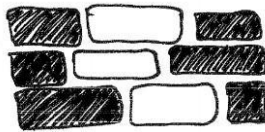
In my opinion...

From my perspective...

From my point of view...

One reason that...

Build on/Challenge



What can you add to this?

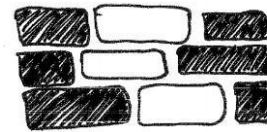
Do you agree? Why/why not?

What might be other points of
view?

How does this connect to...?

Can you build on what _____ said?

Build on/Challenge



I share your point of view...

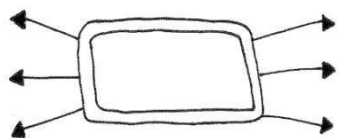
I agree/disagree with _____ that...

My idea builds on _____'s...

My perspective is similar
to/different from _____'s...

Another way to look at it is...

Elaborate and Clarify



Can you tell me more about _____?

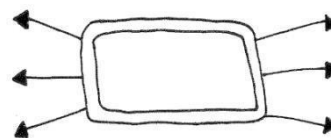
What did you mean by?

Can you be more specific?

Can you elaborate on?

Can you clarify?

Elaborate and Clarify



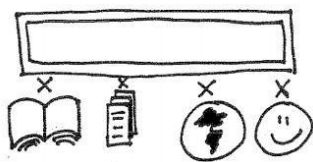
What I mean is...

In other words...

I think it means...

An analogy would be...

Support with Evidence



Can you give evidence from the text?

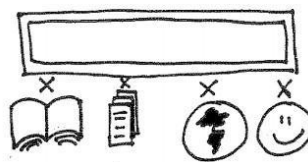
What evidence from other texts can you give?

Can you show me where it says that?

What is a real-world example?

How do you justify that?

Support with Evidence



In the text it says...

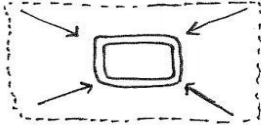
An example from the real world is...

According to _____...

This connects to examples from...

An illustration of this would be...

Paraphrase



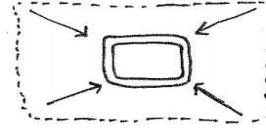
How can we relate this to our topic/question?

What do we know so far?

What is your take on what I/they said?

What are you hearing?

Paraphrase



So you are saying that...

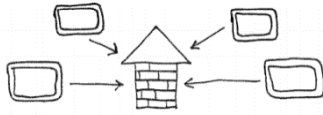
Let me see if I understand...

What I am hearing is...

In a nutshell...

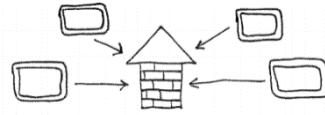
In other words, you think...

Synthesize



What have we discussed so far?
How can we bring this together?
What can we agree on? What main points can we share?
What are the key points to take away?

Synthesize



A main point/theme can be...

The evidence seems to suggest...

After having this discussion we determined...

To synthesize, we think... We concluded that...

Academic Discourse-A Model

Prior to the lesson, choose 3-5 high-utility academic words as well as 3-5 domain specific words that you would want students to know and use in their writing/discussion. Post these on chart paper and ask students to consider the words and what the text may be about. Tell students you are going to write a question or statement about the topic using these words after you model one.

High-Utility Academic Words

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Domain Specific Words

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Ask students to copy your example and then write as many more examples as possible in the next 5 min.

- *Is racial segregation today similar or different from the past?*

Ask students to choose 1-2 of their best examples and put them in a complete sentence using an Academic Conversation prompt.

- *What is your perspective about... whether racial segregation today is similar to the past?*

Once that is done, have students meet in small groups to discuss using the Academic Conversation Cards to further the discussion.

Share out as a class. Be sure students are using the identified vocabulary words in their discussion. Option: You may decide to award points to students based on the number and appropriateness of vocabulary words used.