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...?

From Zwiers, O’Hara, and Pritchard, 2014.
Constructive Conversation Resource Card

Create: Responses

Response starters:

• One idea could be...
• My hypothesis is...
• That reminds me of...
• I noticed the pattern of...
• I think it depends on...
Prompt Starters

- Can you elaborate on ...? OR Can you clarify the part about ...?
- What do you mean by ...?
- Say more about...
- How is ______ important?
- I understand the part about ______, but I want to know ______.
- Can you be more specific?
- Is what I said clear? OR Does that make sense?
- What do you think?

From Zwiers, O’Hara, and Pritchard, 2014.
Constructive Conversation Resource Card

Clarify: Responses

Response starters:

• I think it means ________.
• More specifically, it is ________, because ________.
• An analogy might be...
• It is important because...
• To paraphrase what you just said...
• It sounds like you think that...
• It all boils down to...
• A different way to say it is...
Prompt starters:

- Can you give an example from the materials?
- Where does it say that?
- What is an example from other readings/materials?
- What is an example from outside of class?
- Can you give an example from your life?
- What is the strongest support for ______? How does it support the idea?

From Zwiers, O’Hara, and Pritchard, 2014.
Constructive Conversation Resource Card

Fortify/Support: Responses

**Response starters:**

- For example...
- In the materials/text, it says...
- Remember in the other subject we studied...
- One example from my life is...
- One case that illustrates this is...
- Some strong supporting evidence is...
Prompt starters:

• How can we decide which is the more ______ issue?
• How does the evidence for your argument compare to mine?
• What criteria do we use to evaluate the weight of evidence?
• How do we compare “apples” of ______ to the “oranges” of ______?
• Which has the strongest evidence?
• What is your opinion? Why?
• How might we take the best from both ideas?
• How is that evidence stronger than this evidence?

From Zwiers, O’Hara, and Pritchard, 2014.
Constructive Conversation Resource Card

Evaluate and Compare: Responses

**Response** starters:

- I think we should use the criteria of ______ because ______.
- ______ is strong evidence because...
- A point of disagreement that I have is...
- Even though it seems valid that ______, I disagree because...
- That is a valid point, but...
- I think the negatives of ______ outweigh the positives of ______.