

Language for Classroom Discussion

	Casual Conversational English	Formal Spoken & Written English
Sharing Personal Ideas or Opinions	I think... I learned that...	I decided that ... I believe that ... I concluded that ... I observed that ...
Pointing Out Similarities	Mine's the same. Oh yeah. Right. Me too.	My idea is similar to __'s. My idea builds upon __'s. I agree with __. I also think that __.
Expressing Agreement	Yeah. Right. Uh huh.	I agree with __'s idea that ... I support __'s decision to ... Like __, I support ...
Asking for Clarification & Paraphrasing	Huh? What? I don't get it.	I don't quite understand. Could you explain what you mean by __. If I understand you correctly, you are saying that __.
Reporting Someone Else's Idea	__ said that ... __ told me that ...	__ said that ... __ told me that ... __ pointed out that ... According to __, ... __ explained that ... __ observed that ... __ stated that ...
Reporting a Group's or a Pair's Idea	We think ... We said ...	We decided that ... We agreed that ... We concluded that ... We believe that ... We observed that ...