

Expressing an Opinion

- I think/believe/predict/imagine that . . .
What do you think?
- In my opinion . . .
- It seems to me that . . .
- Not everyone will agree with me,
but . . .

Interrupting

- Excuse me, but . . . (I don't understand.)
- Sorry for interrupting, but . . .
(I missed what you said.)
- May I interrupt for a moment?
- May I add something here?

Disagreeing

- I don't really agree with you because . . .
- I see it another way. I think . . .
- My idea is slightly different from yours.
I believe that . . . I think that . . .
- My interpretation differs from yours . . .

Inviting Others into the Dialogue

- Does anyone agree/disagree?
- What gaps do you see in my reasoning?
- What different conclusions do you have?
- _____ (name), what do you think?
- I wonder what _____ thinks?
- Who has another idea/question/interpretation?
- _____ (name), what did you understand about
what _____ said?
- We haven't heard from many people in the group.
Could someone new offer an idea or question?

Offering a Suggestion Redirecting the Seminar

- We can't seem to find the connection to the text.
Could you point out what and where that
connection is?
- We all want to remember that our goal is a flow of
questions, comments, and ideas to be shared rather
than a debate to be won. How could your comment
be rephrased to reflect our goal?
- Maybe you/we could
- Here's something we/you might try: . . .
- What if we . . . ?
- We seem to be having a debate instead of a
dialogue, can we . . .
- Who has another perspective to offer that will
help us re-focus the conversation?
- Let's look at page _____ and see what we
think about. . .