

# Academic Language Scripts for Structured Discussions

## Clarifying

- Could you repeat that?
- Could you give us an example of that?
- I have a question about : ...?
- Could you please explain what \_\_\_\_\_ means?
- Would you mind repeating that?
- I'm not sure I understood that.  
Could you please give us another example?
- Would you mind going over the instructions for us again?
- So, do you mean ... ?
- What did you mean when you said ...?
- Are you sure that ...?
- I think what \_\_\_\_\_ is trying to say is....
- Let me see if I understand you.  
Do you mean \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_?
- Thank you for your comment.  
Can you cite for us where in the text you found your information?
- If I understand you correctly...
- In other words...
- To summarize...
- One thing I am confused about...
- Your main point is...

## Probing for Higher Level Thinking

- What examples do you have of ... ?
- Where in the text can we find...?
- I understand . . . , but I wonder about. . . .
- How does this idea connect to ... ?
- If \_\_\_\_\_ is true, then ... ?
- What would happen if \_\_\_\_\_?
- Do you agree or disagree with his/her statement?  
Why?
- What is another way to look at it?
- How are \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ similar?
- Why is \_\_\_\_ important?
- How do you know that? Can you give me an example?
- Is there another way to look at this...?

## Building on What Others Say

- I agree with what \_\_\_\_\_ said because ...
- You bring up an interesting point, and I also think ...
- That's an interesting idea. I wonder ...? I think...  
Do you think ...?
- I thought about that also, and I'm wondering why ...?
- I hadn't thought of that before. You make me wonder  
if ...? Do you think ...?
- \_\_\_\_\_ said that. . . I agree and also think. . . .
- Based on the ideas from \_\_\_\_\_,  
and \_\_\_\_\_, it seems like we all think that..."
- That's an excellent point and I would add...