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 . . .

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?

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?

Offering a Suggestion

• 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 . . .

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 . . .