

## Talk and Argument Norms

1. One person speaks at a time.
2. Everyone contributes ideas. No one dominates or withdraws.
3. Use transitions to connect comments.
4. Invite others into the discussion artfully.
5. Agree/disagree with ideas, not people.
6. Ask clarifying questions.
7. Support a point with evidence from the text.
8. Use body language and eye contact to communicate active listening.
9. Stay in a posture of humility, intellectual flexibility, and curiosity

## Proficient Transitions

### *Rooting Ideas in the Text*

1. Your comment reminds me of [quote, idea]... On page...
2. A related idea/question/comment is...
3. Where do you see that in the text?
4. I would like to (re)direct our attention to the [text]. On page...

### *Transitioning to a New Topic*

1. So far we have discussed [summarize discussion]. I would like to transition us to a new question/topic...

### *Developing Ideas Further*

1. A related idea/question/comment is...
2. I am unsatisfied with our discussion of [idea] because...
3. I agree/disagree with the notion that... because...
4. Building off of [person's] idea...
5. I have a clarifying question for [person]. Are you asking...
6. I would like to return to our previous discussion of [idea] because...
7. I would like to elaborate upon [person's] idea...

### *Inviting Someone*

1. I'm interested in hearing your thoughts on this question, [person]
2. Thank you! I'm still thinking. Can you come back to me?

## Advanced Transition

So far we have discussed... [summarize ideas succinctly] This connects to \_\_\_\_\_ (a new quote) because... This raises a bigger question... [take it to a larger abstract, thematic level]. I'm interested in hearing your thoughts on this.

### *Synthesize*

- What I am hearing X, Y, and Z say is... These ideas fall beneath the greater question... because...
- According to both X and Y, \_\_\_\_\_. These ideas suggest that... because...

- Based X, Y, and Z's comments...it seems that we are wrestling with...This is important because...

### ***Going Deeper in the Text***

- According to both X and Y, \_\_\_\_\_. Although I agree with these ideas up to a point, I cannot accept the overall conclusion that...because...
- Even if we accept...we cannot overlook the ambiguity of...because...
- While I concede that...I still disagree with the notion that...because...
- I think we might be overlooking [author's] assertion that...because...
- Even though on first read it may seem that...a closer reading of the passage suggests that...
- X's claim that...rests upon the assumption that... which is questionable because...
- I am not convinced that the text suggests... Let's go back to the passage where...in order to consider...
- By focusing on..., we overlook the deeper problem of...because...