

# Goals for Productive Discussions and Nine Talk Moves

## Goal One Help Individual Students Share, Expand and Clarify Their Own Thinking

### 1. Time to Think

Partner Talk  
Writing as Think Time  
Wait Time

### 2. Say More:

“Can you say more about that?”  
“What do you mean by that?”  
“Can you give an example?”

### 3. Revoicing

“So, let me see if I’ve got what you’re saying. Are you saying...?”  
(always leaving a space for the original student to agree or disagree and say more)

## Goal Two Help Students Listen Carefully to One Another

### 4. Rephrase/Repeat/Restate

“Who can repeat what Nico just said or put it into their own words?”  
(After a partner talk) “What did your partner say?”

## Goal Three Help Students Deepen Their Reasoning

### 5. Asking for Evidence or Reasoning

“Why do you think that?”  
“What’s your evidence?”  
“How did you arrive at that conclusion?”

### 6. Challenge or Counterexample

“Does it always work that way?”  
“How does that idea square with Tonya’s example?”  
“What if \_\_\_\_\_ had happened instead?”

## Goal Four Help Students Think With Others

### 7. Apply Your Own Reasoning

“Do you agree/disagree? (And why?)”  
“What do people think about what Leslie said?”  
“Does anyone want to respond to that idea?”

### 8. Add On:

“Who can add onto the idea that Anna is building?”  
“Can anyone take that suggestion and push it a little further?”

### 9. Explaining What Someone Else Means

“Who can explain what Hala means when she says that?”  
“Who thinks they could explain why Klarissa came up with that answer?”  
“Why do you think he said that?”