

Discussion Roles

Year 1/2

Discussion roles help students to manage talk and encourage the development of certain speaking and listening skills.



Instigator

Starts the discussion or opens up a new topic for discussion

Will say:

I think...
My idea is...
My view is...
Firstly, I would like to share...
I think we should consider...



Prober

Digs deeper into the argument, asks for evidence or justification of ideas

Will say:

Why do you think...?
What makes you think?
What supports your view?
What proof have you got?
How can you justify your idea?



Challenger

Gives reasons to disagree or presents an alternative argument.

Will say:

I disagree because...
My idea is different because...
My contrasting idea / view / opinion is...
I agree, however...



Clarifier

Simplifies and makes things clearer by asking questions

Will say:

Tell me a bit more...
What do you mean?
Please can you clarify what you meant by...?



Summariser

Identifies the main ideas from the discussion. This might be during the discussion, to help move the conversation forward, or at the end of the discussion.

Will say:

The things we talked about were...
Overall the main points were...



Builder

Develops, adds to or runs with an idea

Will say:

I agree and would like to add...
In addition I want to say...
Also my idea is...