

Say It Right

Change your words for the people listening.

GRADE 8 • SL.8.6

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.6 "Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Speak in complete sentences.

2 Match your words and tone to the audience.

3 Use each Move card only when it fits your idea.

4 Listen before you add to the group's plan.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose one Topic card and read the question aloud.
2. Each player takes a different Role card.
3. Shuffle the Move cards and deal four to each player, using extra printed sets if needed.
4. Take turns speaking. Finish a Move card starter naturally, then place that card in the middle.
5. Keep going until every dealt Move card is in the middle. Then complete the reflection.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I changed my words for a different audience.

☐ I used formal English for an adult audience.

☐ I chose a tone that fit my purpose.

☐ I made my message clear and complete.



TOPIC CARDS · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
New Club Invite Plan a short invitation for a new after-school club. Decide what you would say to friends and what you would say to the principal.	Phone Use Rule Suggest one fair rule for phone use during school. Decide what you would say to classmates and what you would say to the principal.	Cleanup Volunteers Ask people to help at a neighborhood cleanup. Decide what you would say to friends and what you would say to an adult community leader.

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Audience Scout Make sure the group speaks once for peers and once for an adult audience.	Tone Coach Listen for a tone that fits the audience and suggest a change when needed.	Word Switcher Listen for casual words that could become more formal and suggest one change.	Card Captain Keep track of played cards and invite a player with cards left to speak.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD NAME AUDIENCE “To a ____, I would say, “ ____.””	MOVE CARD SWITCH AUDIENCE “When speaking to ____, I would say, “ ____.””	MOVE CARD FORMAL WORDING “Using formal English, I would say, “ ____.””	MOVE CARD ADULT ADDRESS “For an adult audience, I would say, “ ____.””
MOVE CARD STATE PURPOSE “Our goal is to ____, so I would say, “ ____.””	MOVE CARD CLARIFY MESSAGE “To make our message clear, I would say, “ ____.””	MOVE CARD CHOOSE TONE “For a ____ tone, I would say, “ ____.””	MOVE CARD SHOW TONE “I would sound ____ by saying, “ ____.””

Print one card sheet per team. Cards last longer on thick paper.

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Make enough copies of the Move Cards so each player receives four cards. Let groups select a topic, then listen for students to use card language meaningfully instead of reading disconnected sentences. If one student dominates, have the Card Captain call on a player with unplayed cards.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Mia	Our goal is to invite students to a new art club, so I would say, "Join us Thursday after school."
Jamal	To a friend, I would say, "Come make art with us Thursday after school."
Ana	Using formal English, I would say to the principal, "Students are invited to attend the art club meeting on Thursday after school."
Eli	To make our message clear, I would say, "The meeting begins at 3:15 in Room 204."
Mia	For a welcoming tone, I would say, "We hope you will join us."

LISTEN FOR

- clear shifts between peer and adult audiences
- formal English when speaking to an adult audience
- word choice and tone explained by purpose
- complete, specific messages that fit the task

There are no right answers to the topic cards. Score the moves students make, not their opinions.