

Talk Style Switch

Choose words that fit the situation.

GRADE 4 • L.4.3c

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.3c "Differentiate between contexts that call for formal English (e.g., presenting ideas) and situations where informal discourse is appropriate (e.g., small-group discussion)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Use each card's starter before playing it.

2 Compare small-group talk with a class presentation.

3 Let each player finish speaking.

4 Each player uses all four different moves.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Print two copies of the card sheet. Cut out all 16 Move Cards; use just one set of Topic and Role Cards.
2. Choose one topic. Give each player a role and one card for each of the four different moves; set extras aside.
3. Discuss the topic. Take turns choosing a card and completing its starter with an idea that fits the topic.
4. Place each used card in the middle. Keep taking turns until every player has used all four starters.
5. Compare one small-group phrase with its presentation version. Explain why the wording fits each audience.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I chose informal language appropriate for small-group talk.

☐ I chose formal English appropriate for a class presentation.

☐ I changed casual words into more formal words.

☐ I thought about my audience before I spoke.

**TOPIC CARDS** · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Game Instructions Pick a game your group knows. How would you work out its rules together, then explain the rules to the class?	Classroom Fix Choose one classroom problem, such as noisy supplies or a messy floor. How would you talk about a solution with your group, then present it to the class?	Rainy Recess Choose a recess activity for a rainy day. How would you decide with your group, then announce the plan to your class?

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Context Captain Identify whether the audience is your small group or the class. In a team of three, also take the Card Keeper card.	Formal Finder Listen for clear, complete sentences that would fit a class presentation.	Chat Coach Listen for relaxed but respectful words that fit small-group talk.	Card Keeper Make sure each player uses a starter before putting a card in the middle.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD
NAME CONTEXT “The audience is _____, so I should use _____ English.”	NAME CONTEXT “The audience is _____, so I should use _____ English.”	GROUP TALK “With my small group, I could say, “_____.””	GROUP TALK “With my small group, I could say, “_____.””
PRESENT CLEARLY “For a class presentation, I would say, “_____.””	PRESENT CLEARLY “For a class presentation, I would say, “_____.””	SWITCH WORDING “A more formal way to say “_____” is “_____.””	SWITCH WORDING “A more formal way to say “_____” is “_____.””

Print 2 copies of this card sheet per team of 3 or 4. Use one set of topic and role cards; combine the move cards, deal 4 per player, and set extras aside. Cards last longer on thick paper.

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Two card sheets supply 16 Move Cards: four copies of each of four moves. Give each player one of each move. With three players, set aside one of each move; the Context Captain also serves as Card Keeper. Use only one set of Topic and Role Cards. Help students distinguish relaxed, respectful group talk from the more explicit wording useful in a presentation; informal language is not incorrect language.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Maya	The audience is my small group, so I should use informal English.
Leo	With my small group, I could say, "Let's use cones for the goals."
Ana	A more formal way to say "Let's use cones for the goals" is "We will use cones to mark each goal."
Diego	For a class presentation, I would say, "Our game uses cones to mark each goal."
Maya	The audience is the class, so I should use formal English.

LISTEN FOR

- Names the audience before choosing a speaking style
- Uses clear, complete sentences for a class presentation
- Uses relaxed but respectful wording for small-group talk
- Changes a casual phrase into a more formal phrase

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