

Echo Chain Challenge

Turn talk into accurate shared understanding.

GRADE 8 • 8.C.1.A.v

8.C.1.A.v "Facilitate and contribute to a range of sustained collaborative discussions with diverse partners on grade eight topics and texts. This includes: Thoughtfully paraphrasing and summarizing ideas made during discussions."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Listen fully before you respond.

2 Use each card for a real response.

3 Make paraphrases match the speaker's meaning.

4 Let every player finish speaking.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose one Topic card and give each player one Role card.
2. For 3 or 4 players, use two Move-card sets, shuffle them, and deal four cards to each player.
3. Discuss the topic, doing your role job as you listen.
4. When you genuinely use a card's starter, play that card in the middle.
5. Keep talking until every dealt card is in the middle, then complete the reflection.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I accurately restated someone's idea.

☐ I checked whether my restatement was correct.

☐ I connected or compared two ideas.

☐ I gave or helped build a summary.

**TOPIC CARDS** · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Music or Quiet Should students be able to listen to music during independent classwork? Discuss benefits and limits, then propose a class guideline.	Phone Boundaries What phone rule would help students focus while still allowing useful communication? Discuss reasons and possible exceptions.	Fair Group Work What would make a group project fair when people have different schedules and strengths? Discuss a plan your group could use.

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Echo Coach Listen for paraphrases and ask whether they match the original speaker's idea.	Thread Finder Point out when two ideas connect, agree, or differ.	Summary Keeper Jot down main points and offer a short summary near the end.	Voice Balancer Invite a player whose idea has not yet been paraphrased or included in a summary.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD
RESTATE IDEA “I hear you saying that ____.”	RESTATE IDEA “In other words, you think ____.”	CHECK MEANING “So your main point is ____, right?”	CONNECT IDEAS “____ connects to what ____ said because ____.”
MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD	MOVE CARD
TRACK AGREEMENT “____ and ____ seem to agree that ____.”	NAME DIFFERENCE “____ sees it as ____, while ____ thinks ____.”	QUICK SUMMARY “So far, we have said that ____.”	QUICK SUMMARY “Our main ideas right now are ____ and ____.”

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

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

For groups of 3 or 4, print two Move-card sets, shuffle them together, and deal four cards to each player. Run a second round with a new topic and rotated roles. If participation is uneven, have the Voice Balancer pause new turns from frequent speakers until a quieter player contributes, and require each played card to respond accurately to a previous idea.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Maya	I think a fair plan lets people choose jobs they are good at, but everyone should have a clear part.
Leo	I hear you saying that people can use their strengths, but each person still needs a responsibility.
Ava	Leo's idea connects to what Maya said because both focus on clear jobs that fit each person.
Noah	Maya and Leo seem to agree that every person should have a clear responsibility.
Maya	So far, we have said that jobs should match strengths and that every person should have a clear responsibility.

LISTEN FOR

- Accurate restatements that preserve the original idea
- Brief summaries that include more than one speaker's idea
- Connections or differences named between specific ideas
- Checks for accuracy, followed by corrections when needed

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