

Talk Moves

Listen, question, and test ideas.

GRADE 9 • 9.C.1.A.v

9.C.1.A.v "Facilitate and contribute to a range of sustained collaborative discussions with diverse partners on grade nine topics and texts. This includes: Responding thoughtfully and tactfully with evidence to diverse perspectives..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Speak to ideas, not people.

2 Let a speaker finish before responding.

3 Use a card only when its starter fits your response.

4 Make room for every player to speak.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose one Topic Card and read its question aloud.
2. Each player takes a different Role Card. Shuffle two copies of the Move Cards and deal four cards to each player.
3. Discuss the question using reasons, examples, and questions.
4. When you genuinely use a card's starter, place that card in the middle.
5. Keep talking until every player has played all four cards. Then complete the reflection.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I used evidence from an experience or observation.

☐ I asked a question that clarified an idea.

☐ I challenged or added to an idea respectfully.

☐ I checked a claim before accepting it.

**TOPIC CARDS** · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Phone Breaks Should students be allowed to use phones during passing periods? Develop a group recommendation and support it with reasons and examples.	Start Time Shift Should the school day start 30 minutes later, stay the same, or start earlier? Develop a group recommendation and support it with reasons and examples.	Group Project Grades Should a group project receive one shared grade, individual grades, or both? Develop a group recommendation and support it with reasons and examples.

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Voice Balancer Notice who has spoken less and invite that person to share an idea or question.	Evidence Scout Listen for claims without support and ask the group for a reason, example, or observation.	Meaning Checker Notice unclear words or claims and point the group toward a clarifying question.	Perspective Tracker Keep track of different viewpoints and state them fairly before the group decides.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD CLARIFY MEANING “Could you clarify what you mean by ____?”	MOVE CARD CLARIFY DETAIL “Could you say more about ____?”	MOVE CARD EXPERIENCE EVIDENCE “One example from my experience is ____.”	MOVE CARD OBSERVATION EVIDENCE “I noticed ____, which supports my point.”
MOVE CARD RESPECTFUL CHALLENGE “I see your point, but I think ____.”	MOVE CARD ALTERNATE EXPLANATION “Could there be another explanation for ____?”	MOVE CARD CHECK CLAIM “Can we check whether ____?”	MOVE CARD TEST EVIDENCE “What information would help us decide whether ____?”

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

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Give each group two cut-apart copies of the eight Move Cards, so four students can each receive four cards. With three students, set aside four cards, and end the round when all dealt cards are played. If participation is uneven, direct the next response to a student with the fewest cards played.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Ava	One example from my experience is that I struggle to focus in first period after riding an early bus, so I favor a later start.
Noah	Could you clarify what you mean by a later start, such as how many minutes later?
Ava	I noticed I participate more on days when school begins later, which supports my point.
Priya	I see your point, but I think a later start could make practices end too late because they already end at 5:00.
Jordan	Can we check whether practices would end later if the school day began 30 minutes later?

LISTEN FOR

- Respectful disagreement that names a specific idea and gives a reason
- Clarifying questions that target unclear words, claims, or details
- Relevant experience or observation used as evidence
- Questions that test whether a claim is supported before the group decides

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