

Socratic Dialogue Sentence Starters

Help Understanding:

•	Could you repeat your idea?
•	I don't understand what you mean by
•	Could you give an example of what you mean by?
•	I'm not sure I understand your question. Could you rephrase your question?
•	Could you explain further?
•	When you say, it seems like you're implying Is that what you mean?
Evidence to Support View:	
•	What would be an example of?
•	Ifis true, why would happen?
•	What effect would have?
•	Is there an alternative?
•	How would apply in this case?
•	What information would support what (name) is saying?
Higher Level Questions:	
•	Does this connect to that we already learned?
•	What would happen if?
•	Is there another way to describe?
•	How are and similar [different]?
•	Is important to? Why [Why not]?
•	If and are true, then what else must also be true?
Changing the Subject:	
•	Have we exhausted the topic of? Is it okay if we move on to?
•	Does anyone have any final comments to add about before we move on to?
Building on Others' Ideas:	
•	My idea builds on's idea. I
•	I would like to share an example of's idea about
•	I thought about that also and I'm wondering why?
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Agreeing and Disagreeing	
I agree with (name) because	
I don't agree with (name) because	
 That's a valid point, but does it apply to? 	
I would like to answer the objection that (name) has raised.	
Making Assumptions:	
You seem to be assuming Is that correct?	
 What might someone who believed have to assume? 	
Is there an important assumption necessary to support this idea?	
Inviting Others to Join the Dialogue:	
• (name), what do you think?	
Does anyone agree/disagree?	
 Who has another idea/question? 	
Can someone else give evidence to support that idea?	
Expressing your Opinion:	
We've previously discussed that	
We have read that	
• In my opinion	
I've observed that when	
To me without evidence, it seems easier to believe	
While I can see why you believe I see this differently. In my opinion	