**Language for Class Discussions**

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| **Casual Conversational English** | **Academic Language** |
| **Asking for Clarification** | |
| Huh?  What?  I don’t get it. | I don’t quite understand (the directions).  Could you explain what you mean by \_\_?  Could you provide another example of \_\_?  Could you define the term \_\_?  Could you show me how to \_? |
|  | |
| **Paraphrasing to Verify Understanding** | |
| You think \_\_? | So what you mean is \_\_.  So what you are saying/suggesting is \_\_.  In other words, you believe that \_\_.  If I understand you correctly, you think that\_\_. |
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| **Expressing an Opinion** | |
| I think \_\_.  I don’t think \_\_. | I believe \_\_.  In my opinion, \_\_.  Based on my experience, \_\_.  From my perspective, \_\_. |
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| **Expressing Agreement** | |
| Yeah. Right.  Uh huh | I agree with you.  I understand what you mean.  I see what you are saying.  You are right. |
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| **Soliciting a Response** | |
| So what about you?  So what do you think? | What’s your idea/opinion?  What answer did you get?  We haven’t heard from you yet. |
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| **Reporting A Pair’s/Group’s Idea** | |
| We think …  We said … | We decided that …  We agreed that …  We determined that …  We concluded that…  We observed that … |
|  | |
| **Reporting Someone Else’s Idea** | |
| \_\_ said that …  \_\_ told me that … | \_\_ pointed out that …  \_\_ indicated that …  \_\_ observed that …  \_\_ emphasized that … |