## Structuring Academic Language for Classroom Discussions: Sample “Language Anchor Charts”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expressing an Opinion</th>
<th>Citing Evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I think/believe that . . .</td>
<td>According to the author ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In my opinion . . .</td>
<td>In paragraph two the author states______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based on my experience, I think . . .</td>
<td>Researchers have found that ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From my perspective...</td>
<td>One important fact reported in the article is______</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asking for Clarification</th>
<th>Paraphrasing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What do you mean?</td>
<td>So you are saying that . . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will you explain that again?</td>
<td>In other words, you think . . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have a question about that.</td>
<td>What I hear you saying is . . .</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soliciting a Response</th>
<th>Acknowledging Ideas</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What do you think?</td>
<td>My idea is similar to/related to____’s idea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We haven’t heard from you yet.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you agree?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What answer did you get?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting a Partner’s Idea</th>
<th>Reporting a Group’s Idea</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>____ indicated that . . .</td>
<td>We decided/agreed that . . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ pointed out to me that . . .</td>
<td>We concluded that . . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ emphasized that . . .</td>
<td>Our group sees it differently, we’ve concluded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ concluded that . . .</td>
<td>We had a different approach,</td>
</tr>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disagreeing</th>
<th>Offering a Suggestion</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I don’t agree with you because . . .</td>
<td>Maybe we could . . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I agree that ____ , however____</td>
<td>What if we . . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I reached a different conclusion, I think</td>
<td>Here’s something we might try.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affirming</th>
<th>Holding the Floor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>That’s an interesting idea.</td>
<td>As I was saying, . . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I hadn’t thought of that.</td>
<td>If I could finish my thought . . .</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I see what you mean.</td>
<td>What I was trying to say was . . .</td>
</tr>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Predicting</th>
<th>(Based on the work of Dr. Kate Kinsella)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I predict/imagine that . . .</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based on . . . , I think that . . .</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I hypothesize that . . .</td>
<td></td>
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</table>