

# VOYAGES - DISCUSSION CHECKLIST

Google Drive Folder  
discussions

\*Ideas highlighted are agreed upon non-negotiables for all

## SKILLS

- Using a respectful **tone** and **appropriate language**
- Waiting for other people to share their ideas and i will **not interrupt** them
- Demonstrating active listening by making eye contact and using appropriate **body language**
- **Paraphrasing** what other people said to show that I understand their claims
- Using **evidence** to support a claim

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### TEACHERS SHOULD...

- MODEL** effective discussion, introduce student to strategies and skills to support discussion
- Plan** the size, groups, and seating
- Be **flexible and adapt** when necessary
- Use discussions to return to the **essential question**

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- Use a **PROTOCOL** (and then reuse it to build routine)
- Use both **low-stakes questions** like “what do you notice?” and **higher level questioning** that is provocative and pushes thinking (Costas Questioning)
- Use **sentence starters/prompts**
- Ensure **students are talking to one another** (not call and response)
- Ensure **culturally relevance**

### STUDENTS SHOULD...

- THINK & WRITE** before talking
- Review the questions** in advance
- Engage with content in multiple ways** (in small groups, in stations, standing up and moving around etc.)

## PROTOCOLS:

- **Text Rendering Protocol** - can be used during reading
- **Dyads Protocol** - can be used before, during, or after engaging w/content
- **Four Corners** - can be used before, during, after engaging with content (see also this [handout](#))
- **Fishbowl** - can be used after learning content
- **Clarifying bookmark** - can be used in small discussion, during reading/engaging w/content

## TOOLS:

- **Discussion Skills**- skills to model and teach explicitly
- **Accountable Talk Stems** - Phrases/prompts to support the use of academic language
- **Discussion tracker** - students look for effective discussion practices in peers
- **Self Monitoring Sheet** - students set goals and reflect on effective discussion practices

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