Student Conversation Starters

Disagree

- I disagree with _____ because _____.
- Respectfully, I disagree because _____.
- I see it differently because _____.
- Looking at it a different way, I think _____.
- I see what you're saying, but I think _____.

Summarize

- Overall, I think _____.
- My whole point is that _____.
- It all boils down to _____.
- To summarize, I think _____.
- To summarize, I learned that _____.

Agree

- I agree with _____ because _____.
- The evidence _____ shared is critical because _____.
- I believe the same thing as _____ because _____.
- As _____ pointed out, _____.
- Like _____, I believe _____ because _____.

Clarify

- Can you help me understand what you mean by _____?
- Can you explain what you mean by _____?
- I think I hear you saying _____.
- Could you say that another way?
- I'm confused about _____. Can you please explain it to me a different way?

Paraphrase

- I believe that you are saying _____.
- Is it fair to say you believe _____?
- It sounds like you think _____.
- I'm hearing that _____.
- In other words, _____.
- Let me see if I understand you correctly. I think you're saying _____.