

Handout F: Discussion Starters

To add a new point:

It surprised me that . . .

I appreciated how . . .

I wonder why . . .

I noticed that . . .

This made me think of . . .

To use the text:

For example, in paragraph _____, the author says _____. To me, this means . . .

I think that _____, because in paragraph _____, the author states “_____.”

However, in paragraph _____, the author says “_____,” which I took to mean . . .

Also, the author supports your point when the author states “_____.”

The author uses the word _____ a lot, which demonstrates that . . .

In paragraph _____, the author states, “_____.” This was confusing because . . .

To respond to a peer:

I heard you say _____, which reminded me of . . .

I agree when you said _____, because . . .

I disagree with _____, because . . .

_____, I don’t understand what you meant by . . . Could you clarify?

Another example is . . .

I can understand your point, because . . .

To make connections:

When you said _____, it made me wonder . . .

This was different from . . .

This was similar to . . .

I predict this could cause . . .

This reminds me of today, how _____.

To me, this relates to . . .