

Talk it through

Ground rules, a seat plan and a note panel.



NAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____

LEARNING GOAL

Discuss an open question fairly and listen well.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

- ☐ I can give a reason and an example.
- ☐ I can challenge an idea politely.
- ☐ I can say if my view has changed, and why.

1 Ground rules

Tick each rule when your group has agreed to it.

- ☐ **One voice at a time.** Wait for the speaker to finish.
- ☐ **Challenge the idea, not the person.** Say what you disagree with.
- ☐ **Use evidence.** Give an example or a reason.
- ☐ **Change your mind if you are persuaded.** That is a strength.
- ☐ **Sum up, then reply.** Say back what you heard before you answer.

2 How to play

- Cut out the cards on pages 2 and 3 along the dashed lines.
- Sort them: **P** prompts (square), **R** roles (circle), **S** starters (diamond).
- Deal a role to each person, turn over a prompt and talk.

3 Seat plan

Four use seats 1 to 4; five or six use more.

1 NAME _____ ROLE _____	2 NAME _____ ROLE _____	3 NAME _____ ROLE _____
Table: prompt card here		
4 NAME _____ ROLE _____	5 NAME _____ ROLE _____	6 NAME _____ ROLE _____

4 Note-taking panel

For each prompt, write your view before and after the discussion.

PROMPT

MY VIEW
BEFORE

MY VIEW
AFTER



✂ Cut along the dashed lines. Badges: P prompt (square), R role (circle).

P PROMPT 1: HOMEWORK

Should students choose some of their own homework tasks?

P PROMPT 2: RULES

Is it ever right to break a rule?

P PROMPT 3: SCHOOL DAY

Should schools start later in the day?

P PROMPT 4: UNIFORM

Do school uniforms help or hinder learning?

P PROMPT 5: LANGUAGES

Should every student learn a second language?

P PROMPT 6: SCREENS

How much of our learning should be done on screens?

R ROLE: CHAIR

Invite each person to speak and keep the talk on the prompt.

R ROLE: TIMEKEEPER

Watch the clock and give a warning one minute before the end.

R ROLE: SCRIBE

Write down the main points on the note panel.

R ROLE: SPEAKER FOR

Give reasons and evidence in favour of the prompt.



✂ Cut along the dashed lines. Badges: R role (circle), S starter (diamond).

R ROLE: SPEAKER AGAINST Give reasons and evidence against the prompt.	R ROLE: SUMMARISER Say what the group has agreed and where it disagrees.
R ROLE: CHALLENGER Ask one fair question that tests a reason or an example.	S STARTER “I agree with ... because ...”
S STARTER “I see it differently because ...”	S STARTER “Can you give an example?”
S STARTER “What would change your mind?”	S STARTER “Building on what ... said ...”
S STARTER “Let me check I understand: you think ...”	S STARTER: MY OWN Write a respectful starter of your own.