

Pathway2Careers Math Academic Conversation Cards

How to Use

These conversation cards can be printed and given to students as they engage in Academic Conversations. Refer to the Pathway2Careers Teaching Strategies and Guidance for more information on how to effectively implement Academic Conversations.

CLARIFY PROBLEM & IDEAS FOR SOLVING IT

Prompt Starters

- What are we trying to do?
- What is the problem asking?
- How does the problem begin?
- What happens in the problem?
- What do we need to know?
- How can we break this down?
- What type of problem is this?
- What patterns do we notice?
- What's a possible plan for solving it?
- What is your estimate for the answer?
- Why are you doing that?
- Where did that number come from?



Response Starters

- In order to ____, we need to ...
- In other words,
- More specifically, it is ... because...
- Let's see, it is similar to the problem about ... that we did because...
- It is important to ____ because
- Let's stay focused on
- Let's get back to the idea of...
- In future problems like this one we need to remember to...

DISCUSS REPRESENTATIONS AND MODELS

Prompt Starters

- How else can we show this?
- How can we draw or graph this?
- What symbols can we use?
- How can we explain this to others?
- How can we write what we are thinking/doing?
- How can we use symbols to represent this problem?



Response Starters

- Maybe we can use...
- Another way to show this is...
- We can make a data table and...
- We can draw it like this because it says...
- This variable stands for...

EXPLAIN & SUPPORT REASONING

Prompt Starters

- Can you explain why you...?
- What does that mean?
- Why did you...?
- What math rule are you using?
- Can you give an example?
- How does the sample problem help us?
- What are examples of this problem from real life?
- Can you clarify where you...?
- How did you get this answer?



Response Starters

- If we _____, then we need to _____ because...
- A key mathematical principle is making sure that you...
- In real life this is similar to when you want to...
- An example from my life is
- One case that illustrates this is...
- In math, we always need to...
- Let me show you what I mean.
- We can't do that because it...

USE MULTIPLE METHODS FOR SOLVING

Prompt Starters

- How can we show what is happening a different way?
- What do you think about this strategy for solving it?
- What else could we do?
- We could also move this over there to...
- What are other ways to solve this?
- How can we write this in sentences?
- Let's try other methods for this problem.
- Let's back up and try a different way.
- Which method is most useful? Why?



Response Starters

- I think these two methods relate because...
- I want to add on to your idea of...
- That method works because...
- I see it a different way,
- That makes me think of...
- We can agree that...
- Let's try to... and see what happens.