**Language Frames for 7 Key Academic Conversation Skills**

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| **State an Idea**   * One way to look at this is … * Based on \_\_\_, I think … * This reminds me of … * What do you think about the possibility that … ? | **Support Ideas**  **With Evidence & Examples**   * In paragraph \_\_\_, the author says … * According to … * For instance … * An example of this is … | **Elaborate**   * I think it means … * In other words, … * This is important because … * It’s similar to … |
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| **Build On or Challenge Ideas**  **Build On**   * I want to expand on your point about … * I want to follow up on \_\_\_’s idea…   **Challenge**   * Another way to look at this could be … * Although \_\_\_ makes a good point about \_\_\_, I think \_\_\_ because ... | **Clarify & Ask Questions**   * What do you mean when you say … ? * Can you tell me more about … ? * Can you explain your thinking about … ? * What do you think about … ? | |
| **Synthesize**   * The main theme / point seems to be … * As a result I / we think … * What if we … * The evidence seems to suggest ... | **Paraphrase**   * Let me see if I understand you… * In other words… * Essentially, you think… * It sounds like you’re saying… |