

Effective Discussion

Discussion

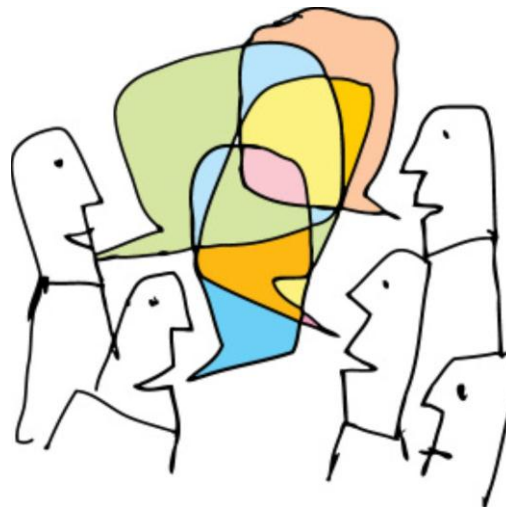
What is the purpose of the discussion?

- To make decisions (e.g. what you think the theme of a text is)
- To give and / or share opinions on a given topic (e.g. discussing beliefs about global warming)
- To create something (e.g. plan and design an experiment)
- Solve a problem (e.g. a maths equation)

Content

Key Points to remember:

- Ask questions for clarification
- Disagree constructively (offer an alternative view or solution)
- Focus on discussion
- Listen and respond to what is said
- Support opinions with evidence whenever possible
- Encourage others to contribute



Active Listening

Looks Like

Eyes on speaker
Hands are empty
Sitting upright
Facing speaker

Sounds Like

Appropriate responses
Voices low
One voice at a time

Active Participation

Looks Like

Eyes on the speaker
Hands to yourself
Hands empty
Talking one at a time
Head nodding

Sounds Like

Appropriate responses
Respond to ideas
Relevant comments
Positive attitudes