

Collaborize Commenting Rules: Extending the Dialogue

Every comment you make must have:

- A claim and a reason; for example, "I agree with this statement because..."
- A minimum of two sentences
- A response to clarification questions
- A way to extend the dialogue (See examples below)

Extending (Continuing) the Dialogue

Examples of extending the conversation can take many forms. It might be to...

- ask a clarifying question
 - "You said _____. Can you clarify what you mean?"
 - "When you say _____, what do you mean?"
- push for deeper understanding or explanation of a concept
 - "What evidence do you have to support _____?"
 - "Can you explain how you came to that conclusion?"
- introduce thought-provoking ideas or reflection about a comment
 - "How does that make you feel?"
 - "Do you agree with that decision/choice?"
 - "What might you have done in that situation?"
- play "devil's advocate"
 - "What would happen if _____?"
 - "If the situation were different, _____?"

Affirming or agreeing with a classmate's post might be helpful to enter the dialogue or make a classmate feel good for a moment, but you are encouraged to push your classmates to feel as if they are being listened to through more depth in your responses.