



Countering Conversations

Task: Use the conversation cards below to chat with classmates about potential counterclaims to your argument and to theirs.

Instructions:

1. Walk around the room and meet a partner.
2. Share your claim. (Use the conversation cards to help you!)
3. Listen as they raise a counter to your claim.
4. Jot down the counterclaim they raise. If someone has already given you that counterclaim, as your partner for a different one!
5. Then, listen to their claim and present a reasonable counterclaim. (Use the conversation cards to help you!)
6. When you have both shared and both received counterclaims, find a new partner!

Partner	Counterclaim



Teacher Instructions: Print these cards, copy them back-to-back, and laminate for a reusable resource. Alternatively, make a copy for each student and allow them to keep them in their binders for future use.

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Argument-Builder

"My claim is that ___, and here's why: ___."

"I'm arguing that ___."

"Here's where I stand on this: ___."

"The position I'm taking is ___ because ___."

"If I had to convince you of one thing, it's that ___."

Countering Conversations

Counterclaim Respondent

"A thoughtful person could disagree with that because ___."

"Someone on the other side of this might say ___."

"Have you considered that ___?"

"I can see your point, but couldn't someone argue ___?"

"The strongest case against your claim would probably be ___."