

Understanding the Interplay Talk Stems

What are Talk Stems?

Talk stems are frameworks that are open-ended and support students in expressing themselves without it being too restrictive. At the same time, it ensures that the conversation is facilitated to address the key themes of the lesson so deeper conversations can be had.

Why use them?

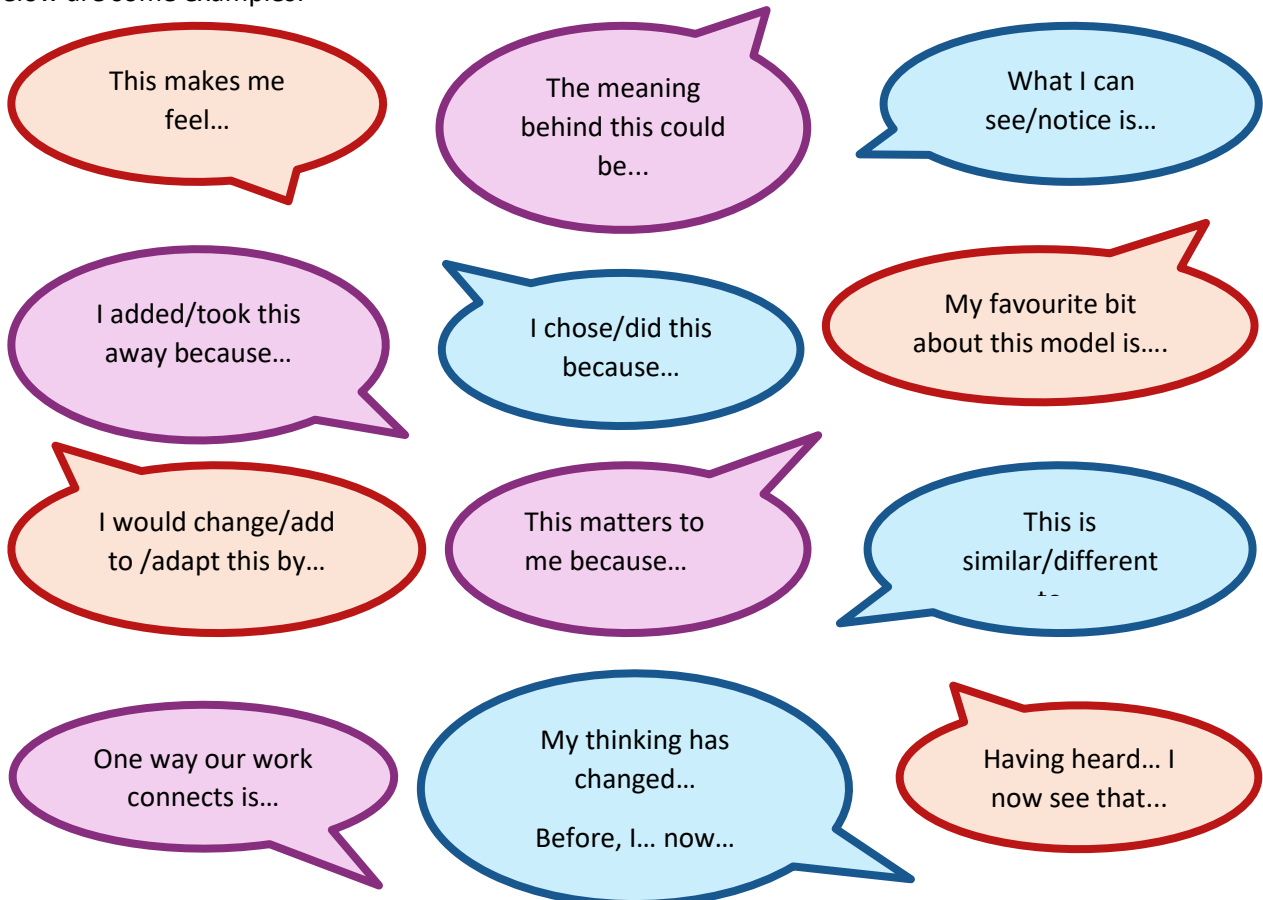
These help the teacher and learner to ensure the discussion is meaningful whilst promoting individual thought, confidence, and creative expression in a safe space.

How do I use them?

Accountable talk-stems help students agree or disagree, ask questions, share opinions and interpretations and to deepen discussions.

You can use them to begin conversations, check pre-existing knowledge, but most importantly, be reflective and think about

Below are some examples:



Key Principles	Reflexive Question Ideas/Writing Frame	Example Theme Exploration: Identity – Who Am I?
Engaging with the key concept(s) to understand and explore one’s own understanding of the theme and how they relate to it.	<p>Explain three things from your model and what they represent (in relation to...)?</p> <p>*Instruction to students: Students do not have to perfectly create a replica of what they want to express. The model is what they say it is.</p>	<p><i>“I did a plane as it represents when I go to visit my dad.”</i></p> <p><i>“I did a mosque as everyone who is a Muslim is your brother or sister”</i></p> <p><i>“This is meant to be the Pakistani flag because it plays a massive role in my life”</i></p>
Listen and reflect to interpret different worldviews and articulate one’s own perspective.	What did you add to your model and why?	<p><i>“I added a broken bridge as I liked the idea that not all routes are perfect.”</i></p> <p><i>“I added a shovel to demonstrate how some have to work harder to know themselves.”</i></p>
Make connections to co-construct understanding and support community building.	How did your models connect to each other?	<p><i>“We added connections between symbols as they both represented a way of showing your identity.”</i></p> <p><i>“I also believe in God and that gives us a shared worldview.”</i></p>
Identifying the interplay between own worldview and its relevance and place in the world	How does your model relate to (theme)?	<p><i>“I think my civic duty is....”</i></p> <p><i>“Being a British Muslim means to...”</i></p>
Understanding varied perspectives Reflecting on how one’s own perspective has shifted in light of others’	Having heard/explored the other models, how has your thinking on ‘x’ changed?	<p><i>“I understand that identity is not always straight and easy.”</i></p> <p><i>“At first I thought everyone could easily combine religion and civic duty, but I realise now that we all have different opportunities and starting points that makes it challenging or easier.”</i></p>



