Prompts for Observing Group Work

Use the prompts below while observing group work. As students become accustomed to teacher modeling of these questions, they will start using them with their peers.

Clarifying

Do you think that J means? Can you explain that in a different way? I don't quite understand what you mean?

Summarizing

What have you found out so far? Where do you need to go still?

Listening

Did I understand you to say ...? Am I right that you said?

Participating

What do you think about this? What do others think? Who agrees?

Facilitating

I'm not sure? I don't know. What do you think? How should we move forward?

Problem Solving

How else could you think about that? What if someone said...? There are some people who think that, what do you think? How does this help you? How would you decide about...?

Analyzing

How does that fit with what D said? Is that the same as what N was getting at? How is that different from M's idea? Can anyone think of how that might happen?

Feedback

How have you listened and given feedback to others? How effective are...? What changes to ... would you recommend? How would you have handled...?