Specific Behaviors to Look for in a Discussion

Students and teachers participate in discussion in a number of constructive and different ways. Among other ways, they may:

Open discussion with a reaction or interpretation Affirm a previous comment Challenge a previous comment Ask for more information (invite completion of thought) Cite evidence from the text Test understanding of the text or a previous comment Define term(s) Develop an idea with new material Clarify differences of opinion Transition to a new or old topic Summarize a new line of inquiry Return to "lost points" or points made previously Synthesize seemingly disparate points Create closure