Group Discussion Roles

During our group discussions, we want to speak English as much as possible. Also, we want to give everyone in the group a chance to express their ideas. We can help each other with these goals if each person has a specific "role." Here are three roles that can help your group have better discussions.



Discussion Leader

In a group discussion, it is useful to have a leader. The leader can help the group in many ways: Starting the discussion, reading the questions, getting people to speak, etc.

Starting a Discussion Today we are discussing ... Let's talk about the first question, ...

Getting Everyone to Speak What do you think, (name)? Do you agree?

Staying on the Topic Let's keep talking about ... Let's get back to the topic. What do you think about ...?

English Helper

The English helpers can help people in the group discuss their ideas in English. If someone answers a question in Japanese, they can help them express their ideas by looking up words and expressions in the textbook or in a dictionary. Each group can have more than one English monitor. *Note: You don't have to be the best at English to help your group look up words or rephrase their answers in English.*

(Name), do you mean ... ? I think (name) means ... What is the word for _____ in English? How can we say that in English?

Group Reporter

The group reporter listens closely during discussion. Maybe they will write some brief notes to help them remember (Don't write every word!). Then after the discussion, the reporter summarizes the group's ideas for the group and for the class.

To sum up ... (Summarize the ideas from the discussion.) In our group, we talked about ... We all thought/felt/agreed/disagreed ... Some people thought/felt/agreed/disagreed ... One person had an interesting comment: ...

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