

When Talk Gets Challenging

EYFS/PRIMARY
STUDENT PACK



When Talk Gets Challenging



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When Talk Gets Challenging



Introduction to Oracy October 2023

Welcome to Oracy October 2023! This year's theme is '**When Talk gets Challenging**' and explores how you can speak up, listen carefully and ensure your voice is heard in situations which you might find challenging. You'll find a variety of challenges which will help you to feel comfortable and confident when talk gets challenging.

This October, we're asking you to consider how oracy can be used to help you deal with challenging situations.

How can you use your voice to represent who you are and what you feel is important?

When Talk Gets Challenging offers a variety of challenges such as: meeting someone new, sharing your feelings and disagreeing with someone.

Each challenge presents a different scenario when talk can get challenging, with each mini challenge getting more difficult than the last so that you are 'moving up the mountain'.

Can you use your speaking and listening skills to reach the summit?



Introduction to The Oracy Framework

When Talk Gets
Challenging

As you complete each challenge, take a look at the Oracy Framework to remind yourself of a couple of key areas you want to focus on. You could even ask a friend, teacher or someone at home to give you some feedback based on the Oracy Framework.

The Oracy Framework sets out the different skills needed to be an effective speaker and listener. It breaks oracy into four different strands:



Physical – how you use your voice, body language and facial expressions



Linguistic – the words you choose to use




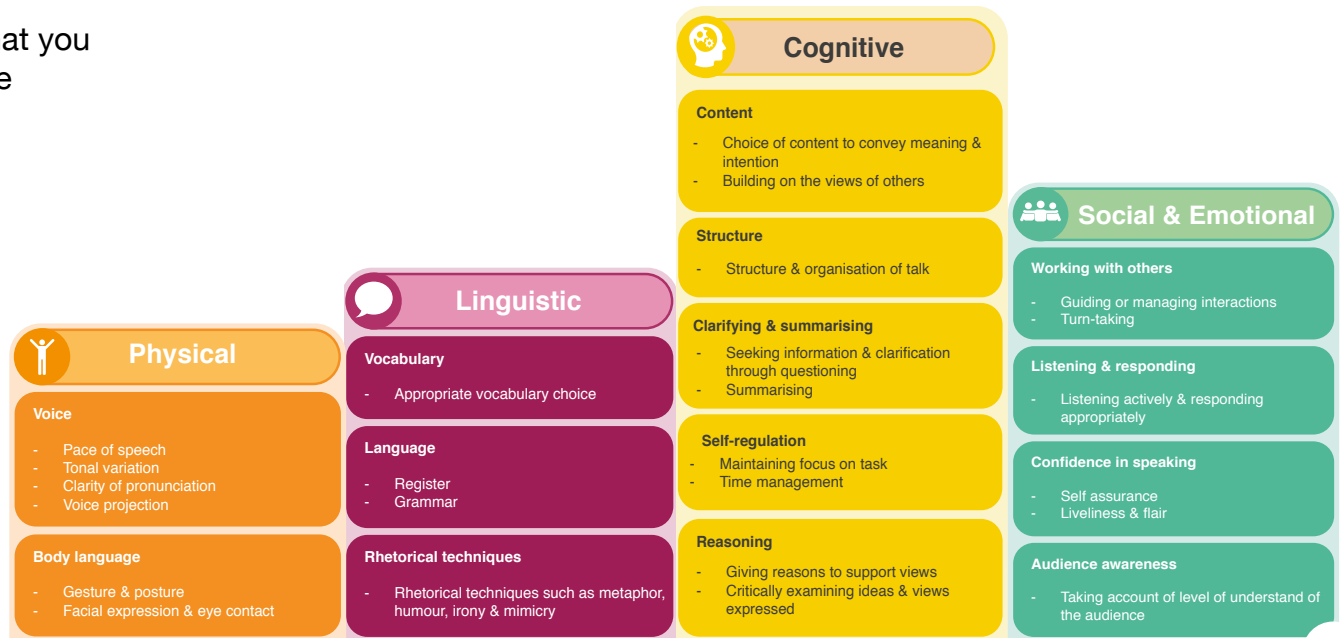
Cognitive – the thinking behind what you are saying and the reasons you give



Social & Emotional – the way you engage with, and listen to, others



 **Think of a situation recently where talk got challenging for you.**
Which strand or specific skills did you need to help you speak and listen in that situation?



When Talk Gets Challenging

Use this poster to track your progress with the Oracy October Challenges!

Meeting someone for the first time

Sharing your feelings

Not knowing the answer to a question

Disagreeing with someone's opinion

Reaching a shared agreement



Challenge Overview and Guidance

When Talk Gets
Challenging

This Oracy October, can you climb all five challenging talk mountains using your excellent oracy skills? You may choose to do one challenge a day, one a week – whatever works best for you.

On each page, work up the following stages to complete each challenge:

LET'S GET GOING!

To practise your skills, first reflect on other's good examples.

CLIMB HIGHER!

Sentence stems to use to help you in your discussions and the final challenge.

THE FINAL CLIMB!

Complete the main challenge and record your thoughts on the reflections page.

You meet someone new for the first time...

Hi!

You need to share your feelings...



You don't know the answer to a question...



You disagree with someone else's opinion...



You need to reach a shared agreement...





Talk Gets Challenging when...

you meet someone new for the first time

When Talk Gets Challenging

As you grow older, you'll meet many new people in school, in your community and in your family. Meeting new people can be exciting yet scary, and it can be hard to know what to talk about!

Knowing how to speak to someone new can help you to be more confident and make new friendships. Showing politeness and interest in other people can help you to learn new things and show that you are a really good role model to your friends too!

Think about the following when meeting someone new..



How can you use eye contact or body language (for example, turning your body towards the speaker) to show you are listening?



How can you use what you have learned about the person, to ask probing or clarifying questions about their interests?

LET'S GET GOING!

Join In: Do a role play with a friend where you pretend you are meeting them for the first time again. How could you introduce yourself and find out more about them?

Reflect: How do adults talk to new people who visit your school?

CLIMB HIGHER!

“How do you feel about... ?”

“What is your favourite... ?”

“Do you like to... ?”

THE FINAL CLIMB!



Introduce yourself to someone new in your school. This could be a different teacher, a visiting adult or someone from another class or year group.

Can you find out **3 things** about them in your conversation?





Talk Gets Challenging when...

you need to share your feelings

When Talk Gets Challenging

Sharing your feelings can be a hard thing to do, but an important thing to practise. Making sure your feelings are heard and understood is an important part of ensuring your voice is valued. Remember, people can't always tell what you are feeling on the inside!

If you are in a situation which makes you feel a strong emotion, it's important to share these feelings with the person you are talking to. Talking about your emotions can get challenging, but it can also help to work towards a positive and productive conversation.

Think about the following when sharing your feelings...



How can you use effective adjectives to explain your emotions? *For example: proud, devastated, frustrated, joyous, courageous.*



How can you explain the reasons for your feelings in a clear and concise way?

LET'S GET GOING!

Join In: Explain to a trusted adult something that happened today that made you feel a strong emotion.

Reflect: Think of a friend who is good at talking about their feelings. How do they choose their words and use their voice to do this?

CLIMB HIGHER!

"I feel that..."

"When... it makes me feel..."

"What you said makes me feel because..."



THE FINAL CLIMB!



Think about a conversation you had with a friend or family member that made you feel a strong emotion.

Can you explain to them how you felt during this conversation, and why you felt this way?



Talk Gets Challenging when...

you don't know the answer to a question

When Talk Gets Challenging

Have you ever been in a situation where you don't know what to do, but are too afraid to ask?

Asking questions when you are unsure about something is a very important skill that can help to keep you safe or on task.

Questions help us to find out more, and can support us to learn from mistakes.

Think about the following when finding out an answer...



How can you use clarifying questions to enhance your understanding?
For example: I'm not sure about Can you explain it in a different way for me?



How can you develop your confidence to ask a clarifying question at an appropriate time, and to the correct audience?

LET'S GET GOING!

Join In: Ask your teacher a question about a maths problem.

Reflect: How does your teacher use questions to find out the answer to questions?

CLIMB HIGHER!

"Can you tell me more about...?"

"I'm not sure what you meant by... can you explain it in a different way?"

"Does that mean...?"



THE FINAL CLIMB!



Ask a classmate to tell you about something they know a lot about, but you know nothing about.

Can you ask some key questions to help you find out more? How can you go deeper by responding to their answers?



Talk Gets Challenging when...

you disagree with someone else's opinion

When Talk Gets Challenging

Everyone has the right to their own beliefs, views and opinions. However, we don't always agree on these views and this is where arguments and disagreements can happen!

It is important we have the chance to talk to those who we disagree with, as they can help us to see a different point of view. This may even lead to us changing our mind. We need to be respectful of others' opinions – even if we don't agree with them!

Think about the following when disagreeing with someone...



How can you use conjunctions to sequence ideas? (eg: *first, secondly, finally*)



How can you challenge someone else's idea by using your own opinion or idea in a structured way?

LET'S GET GOING!

Join In: With a trusted friend, pick an issue you disagree on (favourite food, team, movie) - one person starts by arguing for the issue, and the other replies by using the sentence stem 'yes but'. How long can you keep up a friendly disagreement?

Reflect: Look at how people on the news may disagree with one another. How are they doing this respectfully?

CLIMB HIGHER!

"I disagree but..."

"I'd like to challenge you by saying..."

"Have you thought about...?"

"While I see your point about... I think..."

THE FINAL CLIMB!

Have a group discussion (4-6 people) using one of the 'Would You Rather' questions below:



Would you rather have a dog or a cat?



Would you rather be able to fly or have the power to be invisible?



Would you rather only be allowed to eat crisps or chocolate?





Talk Gets Challenging when...

you need to reach a shared agreement

When Talk Gets Challenging

When talking in a group, there are many ideas or opinions shared – and this means it can be hard to agree!

Coming to a shared agreement (or a consensus) can be challenging, as you may need to reach a compromise – this sometimes means putting your ideas to one side and working together to find something you can all agree with.

Talking together to reach a shared agreement can be a challenge so it's important to practise.

Think about the following when coming to a shared agreement...



How can you summarise all ideas to help find common thoughts and opinions?



How can you make sure everyone's ideas are heard?

LET'S GET GOING!

Join In: With a friend, make a shared list of your top 3 foods – you have to agree on all three!

Reflect: How do the adults in your life help you and your friends agree on something?

CLIMB HIGHER!

"I agree with what you have said, but have you also considered..."

"We both agree that... so how about we go for... ?"

"Does anyone disagree with X and can explain why?"

THE FINAL CLIMB!



Have a group discussion using the following question:

What do people need to be happy and healthy?

As a group, decide on the **3 most important things** people need.



Here at Voice 21, we love to hear your thoughts and reflections on Oracy October!

With an adult's help, share your reflections or progress against the challenges with us on Twitter.

Tag @voice21oracy and use the hashtag #OracyOctober

You could upload videos, pictures of your challenges in action, or even written reflections after you have completed each challenge.

We look forward to seeing your contributions!

