



# INSIDE INCLUSION: CONNECTIONS

## Discussion Guide

### Introduction

Watch *Inside Inclusion*, then use this guide to replicate the informational discussion. View all episodes of *Inside Inclusion*, as well as *Unified Talks*, on the [Generation Unified YouTube channel](#). This guide can be utilized in a few ways:

- Use the questions like a worksheet for independent work.
- Have students get into groups or “breakout rooms”. Assign different questions to different groups and have everyone come back and share.
- Have the entire group work through and discuss questions together.
- Use the Accountable Talk stems & Discussion Behaviors as an assessment or self-assessment rubric.

**THIS MONTH’S VIDEO ON CONNECTIONS CAN BE FOUND HERE**

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## **College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Speaking and Listening**

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.SL.1** Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.SL.4** Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.SL.6** Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

[\\*All anchor standards can be found here](#)

### **Have you utilized the rest of the Connections package?**

Be sure to check out:

- Unified Talks
- Social Media Activities
- Lessons for every grade level

[Access the Unified Classroom here.](#)

[Access GenerationUnified.org for more video content here.](#)

### Accountable Talk Stems

Provide these stems to students to help them have a productive and respectful conversation. You can display them on your screen, or send students a copy to reference.

Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I agree with _____ because</li> <li>• I would like to add to what _____ said...</li> <li>• I'm glad _____ said this, because _____</li> <li>• I think _____ brings up a great point because...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I disagree with _____ because</li> <li>• I hear what you are saying, but in my opinion...</li> <li>• That's an interesting perspective. Can you tell me more about it?</li> <li>• I used to think _____, but now _____</li> </ul>
Clarify / Elaborate	Making Connections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____, can you add on to that idea?</li> <li>• What I heard you say was _____, correct?</li> <li>• I'm not sure what you mean _____. Can you rephrase that?</li> <li>• I agree, but I also think _____</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This reminds me of _____</li> <li>• I had a similar / different experience...</li> <li>• _____, what do you think?</li> </ul>

### Behaviors

Remind students of their actions and behaviors when having a virtual discussion. This can be reviewed before the discussion. You can also have students rate their performance and use these points as a rubric.

Speaker	Listener
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make eye contact with your audience</li> <li>• Speak clearly and slowly</li> <li>• Speak loud enough for all to hear</li> <li>• Stay on topic, use relevant examples</li> <li>• Get to the point</li> <li>• Use language your audience will understand</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make eye contact with the speaker</li> <li>• Nod and show you are listening</li> <li>• "Mute your mic"- do not interrupt</li> <li>• Use accountable talk to ask questions, give comments, or build upon ideas</li> <li>• Use reactions or the chat box to add your thoughts</li> </ul>

## Helpful Definitions!

**Connections:** Two or more things that come together so a relationship is formed.. This can happen between people, feelings, and even ideas.

### Discussion Questions: Connections

#### Types of Connections:

What are different connections you have in your life?

Why is it so important to connect with others who are different from you?

What kinds of connections have you made through Special Olympics?

#### Creating Connections:

What are some of the connections that mean the most to you?

What are some new ways you have connected with others this year because of COVID-19?

What are ways you make sure people in your life know they matter?

How do you stay connected with yourself? What do you like to do to help you relax, calm down, or reflect?

**Problem Solving:**

What advice do you have for people that feel lonely or isolated?

What are barriers to forming connections?

**More about our December Inside Inclusion Partner:**

Special Olympics Puerto Rico is part of the Special Olympics Latin America Region.  
Their official language is Spanish and they have 12 official sports.

## Video Worksheet

1. How is Gabriel staying connected during COVID-19?
2. How has Carlo connected as a Special Olympics youth leader?
3. What are some of the reasons the group gave for connecting with people who are different than you?
4. What is MaryAnne's advice for overcoming language barriers?
5. What are some ways that Ángel relieves his stress?

To learn more about Unified Classroom  
Unified Champion Schools,  
visit [www.GenerationUnified.org/Unified-Classroom/](http://www.GenerationUnified.org/Unified-Classroom/)



Special Olympics  
**Unified Champion  
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