

Protesting Appropriately

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Sometimes, it's hard to talk to teachers when you don't agree with them. This can happen when you really don't like their decision or when they give you work you don't want to do. But it's important to share your thoughts respectfully. When you learn how to talk calmly about problems, you can build better relationships with your teachers and make sure they hear what you have to say.

Here are six ways to talk to your teachers when you disagree:

- 1. Do the Work First** - Always start by following your teacher's instructions. Do the first few problems, even if you don't want to. This shows you're trying, and it might help when you talk to your teacher later. Make sure your work is good, too.
- 2. Stay Calm** - If you're upset, take a deep breath and calm down. Write down how you feel. This helps you stay cool and explain yourself better when you do talk to your teacher.
- 3. Ask to Talk** - After you've done some work, politely ask to speak with your teacher. Use a calm voice and be respectful. Explain why you disagree and give examples. You could say, "Yesterday, I did 20 math problems and got them all right. Do I need to do more today?"
- 4. Try to Make a Deal** - Instead of trying to get out of doing all the work, see if you can do less. There might be good reasons for the assignment that you don't know about. If you're still not sure, ask to talk about it later. Remember, you still have to follow the rules, so even doing a little less work is good.
- 5. Be Ready for a "No"** - Remember, even if you explain yourself well, the teacher might still say no. Be ready for this. Teachers often have good reasons for what they ask you to do. Don't get angry if this happens.
- 6. Ask Why, Then Move On** - If the teacher says no, calmly ask why. Say, "Can you please tell me why you decided this?" If you think the teacher is wrong about something, politely tell them. But if they still say no, accept it and move on. Being respectful can help you have better talks with your teacher in the future.



Talking to teachers when you disagree is about being respectful and clear. By using these tips, you can share your thoughts in a way that helps you solve problems now and have better talks with your teachers in the future. Remember, good communication means being respectful, following the rules, even when you are speaking up for yourself. (449)