Open Ended Questions for Reflective Listening

Open Ended Questions lead to more than *Yes or No* answers. These high value questions invite participation, build relationships, uncover assumptions, and create opportunities for learning.

Open Ended questions often start with *What, How, Where, or Who*. Follow up questions may begin with *If, Explain, Describe, or Tell me*.

UNDERSTANDING ISSUES	SEEING WHAT IS POSSIBLE
 What do you think/feel about? What might be causing? What concerns you about? How does this situation affect? Tell me more about? How does that work? What is an example of? What have you tried? 	 What is possible? How would you approach? What would you need? What are other ideas or options? What else might we try? Who do you know who? How do you want it to be?
 EXPLORING INTERESTS Tell me moreHelp me understand What might be another explanation? What would you like to see? What is at the core for you? If you could choose? 	 FINDING COMMON GROUND If we did this, how? Who do you know who? Who else should be involved? What do you hope for? What comes next? What would it look like if?
REFLECTION	EVALUATION
 What is easy/challenging for you? What did you see? What might this mean? What is emerging? What is not yet clear? How does this relate to? 	 What went well? What would we do differently next time? What surprised you? What are you taking away? How will we move forward?

DOI Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution Partnership and Community Collaboration Academy