

Dimension 4: Dialogue & Listening

What this dimension captures:

- The candidate's openness to challenge and contradiction
- Their ability to listen deeply, not just reactively
- Use of dialogue as a tool for growth and meaning-making
- Whether they initiate, facilitate, or systematize dialogue in their environment

| Level | Title | Observable Indicators |
|-------|--|---|
| L1 | Transactional Communicator (UBS: IC) | - Listens to respond or complete a task- Avoids disagreement or shuts down emotionally- Doesn't ask follow-up questions- Rarely reflects on what others said or meant |
| L2 | Respectful Responder (UBS: Project Manager) | - Listens politely but stays surface-level- Only responds when confident- Asks clarifying questions occasionally- Defers to authority without testing ideas |
| L3 | Thinking Partner (UBS: Program Manager) | - Seeks intellectual tension to learn- Uses dialogue to refine ideas- Can name how someone else's input changed their thinking- Comfortable with "I hadn't thought of it that way" moments |
| L4 | Dialogue Facilitator (UBS: Strategist) | - Frames questions to invite depth from others- Holds ambiguity in discussion without anxiety- Manages group dynamics in SDs or LDI- Guides teams from disagreement to clarity |
| L5 | Cultural Listener (UBS: Leader) | - Signals listening through tone, body, and framing- Models how to disagree with grace- Encourages psychological safety in peer or team settings- Holds the listening standard in high-stakes moments |
| L6 | Dialogue System Builder (UBS: Institution Builder) | - Builds rituals, prompts, or frameworks for group dialogue- Crafts question banks, SD formats, or tools that scale reflection- Designs listening-based systems for organization-wide alignment- Makes listening a pillar of org or community identity Creates frameworks, rituals, and platforms to sustain generative conversation at scale. |