



SAMPLE PROMPTS FOR “IN THE MEDIATION ROOM”

1. Option Generation and Analysis

Purpose: Help parties generate solutions, evaluate tradeoffs, and see possibilities they cannot yet articulate.

Sample Prompts

Prompt 1 — Structured Option Generation

“Act as a mediator experienced in **[type of dispute]**. Generate a list of possible options the parties could consider based on the following interests: **[list interests]**. Provide options that vary in creativity, cost, and level of cooperation.”

Prompt 2 — Comparing Options

“You are a neutral analyst. Compare these potential options for the parties in a **[type of dispute]** case: **[Option A]**, **[Option B]**, **[Option C]**. Evaluate each option in terms of feasibility, long-term impact, cost, and emotional sustainability.”

Prompt 3 — Expanding Narrow Thinking

“Act as a solution-expanding mediator. The party’s current position is **[position]**. Help generate additional options that still meet their core interest in **[interest]** but broaden their thinking into at least three new approaches.”

Prompt 4 — Reality Testing Options

“You are a mediator helping a party assess potential solutions. For the proposed option **[describe option]**, list the strengths, weaknesses, risks, and questions they should consider before agreeing.”

2. Note-Taking and Summarization

Purpose: Quickly turn chaotic party narratives into clear, neutral summaries that support understanding and progress.

Sample Prompts

Prompt 1 — Neutral Summary

“Summarize the following party statement in neutral, non-judgmental language suitable for a mediation joint session: **[paste party statement]**.”

Prompt 2 — Key Issues Extraction

“Extract the top **[number]** issues from this narrative for use in a mediation agenda. Remove emotional framing. **[paste narrative]**.”

Prompt 3 — Interest vs Position Breakdown

“Identify the underlying interests and stated positions in this statement and create a two-column breakdown. Statement: **[paste]**.”

Prompt 4 — Session Notes

“Convert this free-form discussion into organized mediator notes with headings for Issues, Interests, Facts, Options Raised, and Follow-Ups. **[paste text]**.”

3. Risk Analysis

Purpose: Help parties understand legal, financial, emotional, and practical risks of various choices.

Sample Prompts

Prompt 1 — Case Risk Snapshot

“You are a neutral mediator providing a general risk snapshot for a **[type of dispute]**. Based on these facts **[paste facts]**, outline the risks of litigation versus negotiated resolution.”

Prompt 2 — Decision Consequence Mapping

“List the short-term and long-term consequences if the party chooses to **[action]** instead of **[alternative]**, considering financial, emotional, and relational impacts.”

Prompt 3 — Legal vs Practical Risk Distinction

“Help a party understand the difference between legal risk and practical risk in this situation: **[paste details]**. Provide examples in each category.”

Prompt 4 — BATNA/WATNA Estimation

“Provide a general, educational-only breakdown of the likely BATNA and WATNA for the following scenario: **[paste scenario]**. Present it in clear, accessible language.”

4. Decision Trees

Purpose: Support parties in seeing how choices branch into different outcomes.

Sample Prompts

Prompt 1 — Basic Decision Tree

“Create a simple decision tree showing the possible outcomes if the party chooses **[Option A]** or **[Option B]**.”

Prompt 2 — Litigation vs Settlement Tree

“Prepare a plain-language decision tree comparing the path of litigation to the path of negotiated settlement in this **[type of dispute]**, using the following facts: **[paste facts]**.”

Prompt 3 — Multi-Branch Outcome Map

“Generate a multi-branch decision map showing how the following decision points interact: **[list decision points]**.”

Prompt 4 — Emotional vs Practical Trees

“Create two parallel decision trees: one reflecting practical outcomes and one reflecting emotional outcomes for the party considering **[decision]**.”

5. Visual Aid Preparation

Purpose: Converting complex information into visuals mediators can share via screensharing (“screensharing is a superpower”).

Sample Prompts

Prompt 1 — Issue Map Visual

“Create a clear, simple visual outline (using text formatting) showing the major issues in this dispute: **[paste issues]**.”

Prompt 2 — Timeline Graphic

“Draft a clean, step-by-step timeline of events for this case in a way that can be displayed via screenshare. Events: **[list events]**.”

Prompt 3 — Agreement-in-Principle Outline

“Create a structured outline of potential agreement terms for a **[type of dispute]**, using headings and subheadings suitable for screensharing.”

Prompt 4 — Comparison Chart

“Create a two-column comparison chart showing Option A **[describe]** versus Option B **[describe]** with categories for cost, emotional impact, feasibility, and long-term stability.”