

1 USEFUL LANGUAGE

Being tactful in formal discussions


- a Complete the conversation with the phrases in the box.

What did you think
I see where you're coming from
No offence intended
In fact, if you don't mind me saying so
OK, I take your point
I beg to differ
With all due respect

- A ¹ What did you think of the presentation?
B ² _____ but I found it dull.
A I think ³ _____ but I
⁴ _____.
B So you found it interesting?
A Well, not exactly interesting, but dull is a little harsh.
B ⁵ _____, it's much better to be frank. It was boring.
A ⁶ _____. It wasn't that interesting but we need to be more supportive.
B I disagree. ⁷ _____, he needs to be told.
A I'll leave that to you then. You're his manager!

2 PRONUNCIATION

Homophones in words and connected speech

- a  4.3 Listen and match the homophones in the box to the underlined words in the sentences.

ate cereal queue died break aloud weak blue

- 1 I have eight brothers. _____ ate _____
- 2 When I was a child, I was only allowed to eat sweets once a week. _____
- 3 My mother died the sheets blue. _____
- 4 I had to brake very late to avoid an accident. _____
- 5 I eat out at least three times a week. _____
- 6 My sister arrived right on cue, just as someone mentioned her name. _____
- 7 The strong winds blew the parasols over. _____
- 8 The police are still looking for a serial killer. _____