

5.8

SPEAKING

Giving an opinion • agreeing and disagreeing

I can express belief, opinion, agreement and disagreement politely.

- 1 **SPEAKING** Why do some students choose to leave school early and not go to university? Discuss with a partner.

- 2 **2.37** Listen to a dialogue between Tom and Susie. Look at the statements. Do Tom and Susie agree (A) or disagree (D)?



	Tom	Susie
1 Robert should leave school if he wants to be an actor.		
2 He doesn't need to do A levels.		
3 He might need to get a proper job.		
4 Robert's good-looking and talented.		
5 He should do his A levels first.		

- 3 **2.37** Listen again and number the expressions in the order you hear them.

SPEAKING FOCUS

Giving an opinion

I think he ... ☐
 I don't think it's ... ☒
 Personally, I think ... ☐
 I really believe ... ☐
 In my opinion, ... ☐
 If you ask me, ... ☐

Agreeing

I couldn't agree more. ☐
 That's a good point. ☐

Disagreeing politely

I see what you mean, but ... ☐
 That's true, but ... ☐
 I'm not so sure. ☐

Disagreeing

I totally disagree! ☐
 Oh come on! That's nonsense. ☐

- 4 Choose the correct option.

- 1 A: What do you think about single-sex schools?
 B: *I don't think / Personally, I think they're a good idea.*
 It isn't normal to separate boys and girls.
- 2 A: If you ask me, I think we get too much homework.
 B: *I'm not so sure. / I couldn't agree more.* I never have time to do sport or relax in the evenings.
- 3 A: I don't think my pronunciation is very good.
 B: *I really believe it, / I see what you mean, but if you practise,* I'm sure you'll improve.
- 4 A: I think the food in the school canteen is too expensive.
 B: *Oh come on! That's nonsense. / That's a good point.*
 If you go to a restaurant in town, you'll pay much more.
- 5 A: In my opinion, it's a waste of time going to university – I want to get a job and earn some money.
 B: *I totally disagree. / I couldn't agree more.* If you go to university, you'll get a much better job.

- 5 **SPEAKING** Discuss the subjects in the box.

leaving school at sixteen
 having extra lessons after school
 learning by heart playing sport at school
 wearing a uniform doing a gap year
 skipping lessons

A: Ask what your partner thinks.
 B: Give your opinion.
 A: Agree or disagree and say why.

- 6 **SPEAKING** Your school has received a donation of €5,000. Photos 1, 2 and 3 show three possible ways your school could spend the money. Follow the instructions below and present your choice to the class. Use the SPEAKING FOCUS to help you.



- 1 Choose the option which, in your opinion, is the best for the school.
 2 Support your choice with some reasons.
 3 Explain why you have rejected the other options.

I think the school should spend the money on computers because ...
I don't think the school should choose option ... because ...

ROLE-PLAY 24 Giving an opinion

24 Watch the video and practise. Then role-play your dialogue.