



EXPRESSING OPINIONS

Expressing a Personal Opinion

- In my opinion,...
- I feel that...
- I would say that...
- It seems to me that...
- I am of the opinion that ...
- Speaking personally...
- As I see it...
- Well, if you ask me...
- In my view...
- I think that...



Giving Reasons

- I tell you all this because ...
- I base my argument on ...
- I'm already thinking that because ...

Expressing Personal Doubt

- I'm not sure if ...
- I'm not satisfied that ...
- I'm not convinced that...
- I doubt that ...



Expressing Disagreement

- I'm sorry but I'm of a different opinion.
- I don't agree with you about ...
- Sorry, I can't accept your opinion that ...



OTHER WAYS TO SAY “I AGREE”

I agree with you.

That's right.

We are of one mind.

You're absolutely right.

You are so right.

No doubt about it.

Our thoughts are parallel.

I'd go along with that.

I don't doubt you're right.

I see what you mean...

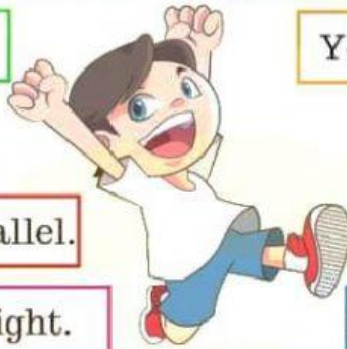
I had that same idea.

I could not agree with you more.

That's exactly what I was thinking.

I could not have said it any better.

You've hit the nail on the head.



OTHER WAYS TO SAY “I AGREE”

We're in accord.

You've found.

Agreed / I agree.

You got it.

Of course.

Affirmative.

Exactly! / Absolutely!

I guess so.

That's exactly how I feel.

Definitely.

My thoughts exactly.

I feel that way too.

I think you are totally right about that.

You took the words right out of my mouth.

That's just what I was thinking.





EXPRESSING OPINIONS

Expression Support

- You took the words right out of my mouth.
- That's a very important point.
- You are right.
- I strongly agree with you.
- You're quite right.



Stating Something As a Fact

- Everyone knows that ...
- It is normally accepted that ...
- There can be no doubt that ...
- As everybody knows ...
- Nobody will deny that ...

Enumeration of Points

- Moreover ...
- In addition to that ...
- Furthermore ...
- First of all, I would like to say ...
- First ..., second ..., third ...
- Another example of this point is that ...



Summing Up, Drawing Conclusions

- Finally ...
- The obvious conclusion is ...
- Summing up, I must say that ...
- In conclusion, we can say that ...
- To cut a long story short, ...



IN MY OPINION



Pair Work

Instructions: Review the different ways to express opinions. Then, discuss the 10 questions provided on the right-hand side.

OTHER WAYS TO SAY "I THINK"

In my opinion...

From my point of view...

I believe...

As far as I can tell...

I assume...

To me...

I would say...

To my mind...

In my point of view...

It is my view...

I consider...

As far as I'm concerned...

It's my belief that...

The way I see things is that...

I honestly believe that...

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Questions

1. What is the best way to learn English?
2. Where is the best place to visit in your town/city?
3. Who is your favorite actor or actress?
4. What is the best TV channel in Costa Rica?
5. What makes a good English student?
6. What is the best way to relax?
7. What's the most beautiful place in Costa Rica?
8. Is Costa Rica the happiest country in the world?
9. What do you think of legalizing death penalty?
10. What do you think of legalizing light drugs?



Opposites attract



A husband who uses toothpaste will squeeze it from the top, but his wife will squeeze it from the very end and argue about this. In other words, a couple tend to be extremely opposite in every way as if they balance each other. A man who is tall usually has a short wife and a man who speaks loudly will have a quiet wife. In your group discuss why relationships are based on black and white, cold and hot and these relationships last forever?

Could a person live a lonely life and be happy?



Could a person live a lonely life and be happy?

We believe happiness is getting married and having a family but there are some people who never get married in their lifetime. People who never have children and never known what is it like to be with a person for their entire lifetime. Some just have never met the right person or has the fear of getting hurt but sometimes are dedicated to other things in their life that they can't get married. In your group discuss reasons why people live a lonely life and choose not to get married and have children.

Falling in love with your best friend



They say that girls and boys can never be best friends because love gets in the way. An old couple who has been married for almost 50 years will say the secret to a good marriage is friendship. It is known that the boy will fall in love with a girl who he has been friends with, but the girl will say to him were just friends. Some people will say the girl is frightened of losing the friendship if the relationship fails. Or she is not ready to be in a relationship with a person who she knows will be very successful. In your group discuss whether you agree with this and could you give an example of friends falling in love.

Instructions: Work with a classmate and **Student A agrees** with the following topics, but **Student B disagrees** with them. Make sure you explain the reasons provided in each topic. **Talk for 3 minutes about each topic.**

Do you think schools are teaching the skills needed to succeed in life?



Do you think single-sex schools are better for students?



Do you think violent video games should be banned?



Should cell phones be allowed at schools? Why? Why not?



Should homework be banned? Why? Why not?



Should school uniforms be compulsory for students? Why?



Should parents be allowed to choose their baby's gender?



Can money buy happiness? Why? Why not?



Is country life better than city life? Why? Why not?



Which is more important: talent or hard work? Why?



Do you think a couple should live together before marriage?



Do you think that technology makes us more alone?



Listening Exercises B1 – Opinions

Instructions: People are expressing opinions. What is the topic of each opinion? Listen and choose the correct answer by writing an "X". **DO NOT STOP THE AUDIO AND LISTEN TO IT ONLY TWICE.**

LISTENING TASK # 1

1.	the Olympic Games	air travel
2.	video games	tourism
3.	TV commercials	rock music
4.	space exploration	medical research
5.	winter sports	bungee jumping
6.	lotteries	pets

Instructions: People are giving opinions about these topics. Are they for or against them? Listen and choose the correct answer by writing an "X". **DO NOT STOP THE AUDIO AND LISTEN TO IT ONLY TWICE.**

LISTENING TASK # 2

	For	Against
1.	space exploration	
2.	TV commercials	
3.	the Olympic Games	
4.	lotteries	
5.	action movies	
6.	pets	

Instructions: What reason does each person give? Listen and choose the correct answer by writing an "X". **DO NOT STOP THE AUDIO AND LISTEN TO IT ONLY TWICE.**

LISTENING TASK # 3

1.	a. It's too expensive. b. It's how we learn about the universe. c. It isn't important.	2.	a. They're too short. b. They interrupt his favorite programs. c. They're boring.
3.	a. They encourage an interest in sports. b. They cost too much. c. Her country never wins.	4.	a. They're dangerous. b. They're fun to play. c. They raise money for the city.
5.	a. They're too violent. b. They're too boring. c. They're too loud.	6.	a. They don't have anywhere to play. b. They don't eat enough food. c. They cost too much.

Instructions: People are giving their opinions. Do they agree? Listen and check the correct answer. Listen and choose the correct answer by writing an "X". **DO NOT STOP THE AUDIO AND LISTEN TO IT ONLY TWICE.**

LISTENING TASK # 4

	Agrees	Don't agree
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		

Instructions: People are giving their opinions. Do they agree? Listen and check the correct answer. Listen and choose the correct answer by writing an "X". **DO NOT STOP THE AUDIO AND LISTEN TO IT ONLY TWICE.**

LISTENING TASK # 5

	True	False
1. He thinks Spanish is hard to learn.		
2. She thinks lawyers work hard.		
3. He thinks most TV programs are for old people.		
4. He had to wait an hour for the bus.		
5. She likes to try things on before she buys them.		
6. The rain is good for her garden.		

Instructions: People are giving their opinions. Do they agree? Listen and check the correct answer. Listen and choose the correct answer by writing an "X". **DO NOT STOP THE AUDIO AND LISTEN TO IT ONLY TWICE.**

LISTENING TASK # 6

	Agrees	Don't agree
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		