**Useful language for group discussions**

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| **Opening the discussion**  *So ….*  *Shall we get started?*  *Shall we start?*  *Is it ok if I start?*  *So, we have been asked to discuss …*  *Would anybody like to begin?*  *Today’s discussion is about …*  **Paraphrasing the discussion question**  *We’ve been asked to talk about …*  *This is really about …*  *Basically the question is asking us …*  *So we need to …* | **Defining terminology**  *Before moving on, we need to clearly define (keyword).*  *The first thing we need to do is define (keyword).*  *Shall we first explain what … means?*  *Does anyone know what … means?*  *As far as I understand, …*  *(keyword) is ...*  *(keyword) refers to ...*  *X may be defined as ...*  *So, for example…* |
| **Giving opinions**  *In my opinion, …*  *My take on this is …*  *From my point of view, …*  *As far as I’m concerned, …*  **Supporting opinions**  *Let me explain.*  *I’ll give you an example.*  *The reason I say this is …*  *A specific example of … is …*  *According to a study, …*  *What do I mean by this?*  *I’ve read somewhere …*  *For example, ...* | **Asking for clarification**  *Could you tell me what you mean by that?*  *Could you remind me …?*  *What do you mean by …?*  *Could you clarify … ?*  *Could you repeat that?*  **Asking for elaboration**  *Could you give me an example of …?*  *Could you elaborate on that a little bit?*  *Could you be a bit more specific in terms of …?*  *Can you tell me more about…?*  *Could you explain that further?* |
| **Developing an idea**  *A good example of that …*  *And a point related to that …*  *Going back to what you were saying earlier about …*  **Asking for opinions**  *What do you think?*  *What do you think about this topic?*  *What’s your opinion?* | **Agreeing**  *That’s true.*  *Absolutely!*  *Yes, …*  *Sure…*  *That’s a valid point.*  *I totally agree with that.*  *I’d go along with that.*  **Disagreeing**  *But I don’t think …*  *OK but don’t you think that*  *… but…* |
| **Ranking**  *Let’s rank them.*  *Which one do you think is the most …?*  *I think … is the most …*  *… is the main one because …*  *… would be more … than …*  *… would have a much greater ….* | **Reaching a consensus**  *Shall we agree that …?*  *That seems reasonable to me.*  **Summarising**  *Shall we summarise then?*  *So, we’ve talked about…*  *In a few words then, today we discussed…* |
| **Some of the phrases above were introduced during the Friday lessons. You can use these and others that have a similar meaning to help your interaction in a group discussion.** | |