Group Discussion (GD) Mastery Cheat Sheet

Body Language Tips

- Sit straight with an open posture.

- Maintain eye contact while speaking and listening.

- Nod occasionally to show engagement.

- Use natural hand gestures to emphasize points.

- Smile subtly when appropriate to appear confident and calm.

GD Do's & Don'ts

Do's:

- Initiate if possible, with strong opening.

- Support or respectfully counter points.

- Use data/examples to strengthen arguments.

- Summarize if opportunity arises.

Don'ts:

- Interrupt aggressively.

- Dominate the conversation.

- Use slang or informal language.

- Get emotional or argumentative.

10 Common GD Topics with Starter Points

1. Is AI a threat or a boon?

   - Boon for innovation; threat to repetitive jobs.

2. Is work-from-home sustainable?

   - Saves costs/pollution; affects collaboration.

3. Should coding be mandatory in schools?

- Builds logic; but not everyone wants tech careers.

4. Impact of social media on youth.

- Influences trends; but affects mental health.

5. Is India ready for a cashless economy?

- Urban yes; rural adoption still growing.

6. Does technology isolate people?

- Connects digitally; but reduces real interaction.

7. Online education vs traditional education.

- Flexible & accessible; lacks physical interaction.

8. Climate change is a global responsibility.

- Requires global policy + local action.

9. Should exams be scrapped?

- Promote learning; not just scores.

10. Role of ethics in business.

- Builds long-term trust over short-term gain.

Leadership & Communication Tips

- Initiate with facts or quotes if possible.

- Encourage quieter members to speak: "What's your take on this?"

- Mediate when there's conflict or repetition.

- Use "We discussed..." instead of "I think..." while summarizing.

Power Phrases & Transitions

- "I'd like to add to that point..."

- "Another perspective could be..."

- "To support what was said..."

- "Let's consider the flip side..."

- "To conclude our discussion..."

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Sample Opening & Conclusion Templates

Opening:

"Good morning everyone, I'd like to begin the discussion on [topic]. I believe this is an important issue because..."

Conclusion:

"To summarize, we've seen both pros and cons of the topic. While [viewpoint A] highlights..., [viewpoint B] addresses.... A balanced approach would be to..."