

Useful phrases for interviews and discussions

Asking for opinions:

- What do you think about ...?
- Could you tell me your views on ...?
- Wouldn't you agree that ...?
- It would be interesting to hear what you think about ...
- What is your experience with ...?
- How do you feel about ...?

Giving opinions

- From my point of view ...
- In my opinion ...
- The way I see it is ...
- To be perfectly honest ...
- There is no doubt in my mind that ...
- I'm convinced that ...

Agreeing

- You're quite right.
- I agree.
- I absolutely agree with you.
- I couldn't agree more.
- That's what I think, too.
- My point exactly.

Disagreeing

- I see your point, but ...
- I understand your point of view, but on the other hand ...
- I don't really share your opinion.
- I'm afraid I have a different opinion / I see it differently.
- I'm afraid I can't agree at all.
- Do you really think that?

Expressing doubts

- I have my doubts if / whether ...
- I'm not too sure if / whether ...
- I wonder if / whether ...
- I'm not convinced that ...

Asking for clarification

- Could you please repeat your question / what you said?
- I'm afraid I didn't quite get your last point.
- Could you explain that to me once more?
- I'm sorry, I'm not sure I understood the question.
- What does '-----' mean exactly?

Checking if you understood

- Do you mean ...?
- So what you're saying is ...
- Am I right in thinking that you mean ...?

Referring to what was said before

- I'd like to come back to the point you made before.
- You mentioned that ...
- I'd like to take up what you said about ...

'Filler' words and phrases

- Let me think.
- Let me see.
- Let me put it this way.
- (That's a) good point / question.
- Well, ...
- ... a sort of ...
- You see, ...

Reacting

- Really?
- That's interesting.
- That goes without saying.
- How strange!

Useful phrases for describing pictures and cartoons

The photo / cartoon / drawing / picture	shows ... is a comment on ... makes fun of ...
In the photo / cartoon / drawing / picture	... is / are ... ing.
In the foreground / background / centre At the top / bottom On the right / left	we can see ... there is /are ...
The photo was taken	from above / below / behind.
The person / people in the photo / picture	gives / give the impression that ... seems / seem to be ... ing.
The mood / atmosphere of the photo / picture	is happy / sad / oppressive.
It makes the viewer feel	happy / sad / depressed / amused.
The caption	says ... tells us that ...
The photographer / cartoonist / artist	uses ... to ...
The message of the picture / cartoon	is ... seems to be...
The photographer / cartoonist / artists	wants the viewer to ...

Useful phrases for talking about a book, film or play

- Opening words** ■ My name is ... and I'd like to tell you about an amazing book I read / film / play I saw.
- Background information** ■ The book / film / play is called ...
 ■ It's a comedy / tragedy / adventure story / romance / ...
 ■ It was written / directed / produced by ...
- Summarizing the story** ■ The story takes place in / is set in ...
 ■ The book / film / play deals with the important subject of ...
 ■ The film shows ...
 ■ The story begins when ...
 ■ To give you an idea of the ... I'd like to read / show you a short extract.
- Giving an opinion** ■ I was disappointed / moved / impressed by ...because ...
 ■ From my point of view ...
 ■ In my opinion ...
 ■ As far as I'm concerned ...
 ■ It seems to me that ...
 ■ To be perfectly honest ...
- Conclusion** ■ I wouldn't recommend / would strongly recommend this book / film / play because ...
 ■ Summing up, I have to say ...
 ■ Finally, I want to say ...