

I have
something to
say about
that

COMMUNICATION

LEVEL
Intermediate

NUMBER
EN_BE_3112X

LANGUAGE
English





Goals

- Can express a straightforward opinion about information.
- Can express polite disagreement during a conversation.







Preview and warm-up

- In this lesson you are going to learn how to **comment on information** and how to **agree** and **disagree** with information you are given.



I completely agree with you.

I agree with you that...

I couldn't agree more

Here are two phrases which you can use for **agreeing** with a person.



I agree with you that moving the office to a new location is a good idea.



I couldn't agree more! We need more office space.



Vocabulary to show understanding

I see what you mean

I see what you mean, but I'm not sure I agree.

I understand what you're saying

Now that you've explained it, **I understand what you're saying**.

I understand your point of view

I understand your point of view, but I'm not sure I agree.

I see what you're proposing

I see what you're proposing – let's discuss it more.

I hadn't thought of that

I've never thought about
that before

These phrases are very similar and are useful to **react to a new idea**.



I hadn't thought of that – you make a really good point.

clarifying

Below are two questions you can use when you are **not sure what someone meant**.



What do you mean exactly?



Can you clarify that?



Make a list

Make a list of different phrases you know for each of the topics below.



I couldn't
agree more



I see what
you mean



Agreeing

Understanding

Clarifying



Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps with the words on the right.

1. I understand what you're _____ but have you thought about it another way?
2. That's an interesting point. I've never thought _____ that before.
3. I'm not sure I understand what you mean. Can you _____ that?
4. You're absolutely right; I couldn't agree _____.
5. I understand your _____ of view but I'm not sure I agree.
6. I agree _____ you that we should do some more research.

about

more

saying

with

clarify

point



How would you react to these statements?

New research shows
that happiness and
health are related.

The government is
going to put a high tax
on sugar.

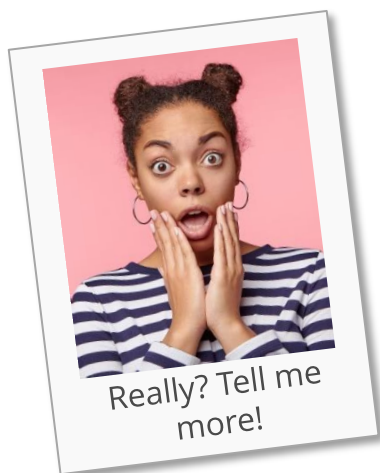
Employees should
never be allowed to
work from home.

Social media sites
should be blocked at
work



Speaking

**When is it
important to
clarify some
information?**



**What information have
you heard recently that
you hadn't thought about
before?**

saying you're not sure

disagreeing

The following pages will give you **phrases** for saying that you're **not sure** what you're about to say is **true or correct**, and phrases for **politely** but **firmly disagreeing** with someone.

I'm not sure if what I'm saying is **true**, but I heard he never leaves the house.



Vocabulary



That's Tom over there, **if I'm not mistaken.**

Correct me if I'm wrong, but wasn't John fired last week? Why is he still here?



Tell me if I'm saying something without substance, but I believe that we need to hire someone new.

I'm not sure but I think that's Jade at the corner.





Vocabulary



I'm not sure how that can work. It doesn't seem practical.

I'm not completely sure about your point of view. Have you thought about doing more research?



I don't think that's feasible because it would cost a lot of money.

I'm not convinced that it would work in practice, though it is an interesting idea.





Vocabulary to redirect the conversation

Have you considered..?

Have you considered what this would mean for your children?

You might consider...

You might consider hiring someone more fit for the job.

How do you feel about..?

How do you feel about increasing the budget for this project?

What's important to remember is...

What's important to remember is that he is a great showman.



Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps with the words below.

wrong

sure

remember

consider

convinced

1. I'm not completely _____ about your point of view.
2. You might _____ meeting Mr. Jones and asking him the questions directly.
3. Correct me if I'm _____, but I thought we decided this in the last meeting.
4. I'm not _____ that is a good idea.
5. What's important to _____ is that she agreed to do the job before asking about payment.





Complete the sentences

Complete the sentences with your own ideas.

1. Tell me if I'm saying something without substance...
2. How do you feel about..?
3. I don't think that's feasible because...
4. If I'm not mistaken...
5. Have you considered..?



Dialogue

Read through the dialogue with your teacher or a classmate.



Correct me if I'm wrong, but didn't the boss agree that we should have a canteen in the office?

Yes, he did. But I'm not sure that it's feasible. It would cost a lot of money.



What's important to remember is how much time people would save every day getting lunch. And time is money!

I hadn't thought of that. You might have a point.





A new gym at work

Your boss has proposed installing a new gym where you work. It would be free for workers to use. Plan some arguments for and against the gym.

- Think about benefits for the workers and for the company.



- Think about any negative points of having a gym at work.





Role play

Using the points on the previous page and the dialogue on p. 19 as a guide, role play a discussion with your partner or teacher about the new gym. Use as many of the expressions from the lesson as you can.

I understand what you're saying...



You might consider...



Student A: You think having the gym is a good idea.

Student B: You think having the gym is a bad idea.



Game

People can suffer from a psychological condition that makes them think they are a cow.

Tell the other students a strange fact that you know or a piece of information that you have heard.

They should react with some of the phrases from the lesson.

What do you mean exactly?



Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

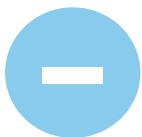
no





Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



If you have time, go over
the most difficult slides again



Answer key

Activity p. 17

1. sure, 2. consider, 3. wrong, 4. convinced, 5. remember

Activity p. 10

1. saying, 2. about, 3. clarify, 4. more, 5. point, 6. with





Fill in the gaps

1. Have you _____ what this would mean for the rest of the family?
2. I've never _____ about that before – what a great idea.
3. I _____ agree more! Let's do it.
4. I'm not sure _____ that can work – it seems impractical.
5. If I'm not _____, that would cost more than it is worth.





Writing

Have you considered..?

I agree with
your that...

I see your point
of view

What do you mean exactly?

Could you clarify that?

I'm not sure
how that can
work

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Homework answer key

Activity p. 27

1. considered, 2. thought, 3. couldn't, 4. how, 5. mistaken



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