

COMMUNICATION

# Sharing arguments

**LEVEL**

Upper-Intermediate  
(B2)

**NUMBER**

EN\_B2\_2083X

**LANGUAGE**

English



## Learning outcomes

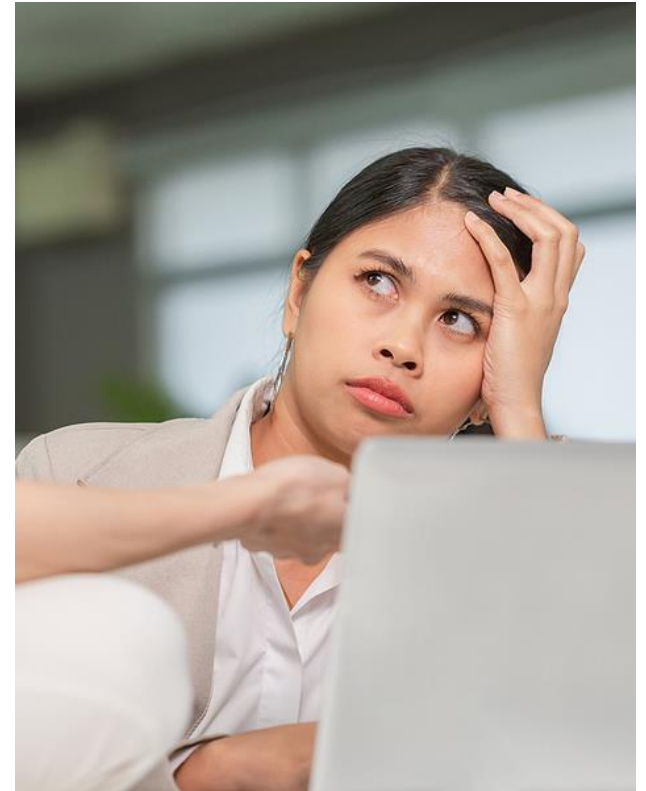
- I can use and recall some strategies for creating arguments for or against something.
- I can express my opinions using some more advanced phrases of agreement or disagreement.



## Warm-up

***I think we'll have to agree to disagree!***

**Have you ever said this to someone? What happened?**





# Categorise

**Categorise** the phrases below into one of the two pink boxes below.

**1**

I disagree for a number of reasons

**2**

This is how I see it...

**3**

Yes, but...

**4**

It is a fact that...

**5**

The way I see it is...

**6**

Consider the following ideas...

**7**

Another way of viewing this is...

**8**

Yes, but on the other hand...

**9**

I agree. However,...

**10**

This cannot be the case, since...

**presenting an argument**

**presenting a counter argument**



# What would you say?

1. **Read** the statements below. 2. Then **state your opinion** using one of the two options.

1 Healthcare should be universal.

a. I agree. However...

b. The way I see it is...

2 Social media has improved human connection.

a. I disagree for a number of reasons...

b. This cannot be the case, since...

3 Sports stars are bad role models for young people.

a. Consider the following ideas...

b. Yes, but on the other hand...



# Expressing agreement

**Unscramble** the words to create phrases for **expressing agreement**.

1 how / feel / exactly / I / that's



*That's exactly how I feel.*

2 your / I / share / completely / views



3 have / said / I / the same / would



4 merit / in / that / there / is



5 right / you're / absolutely



6 agree / I / not / more / could





# Discuss

Answer the questions below.

**Is there anyone that  
*sees eye to eye* with you  
on most things?**

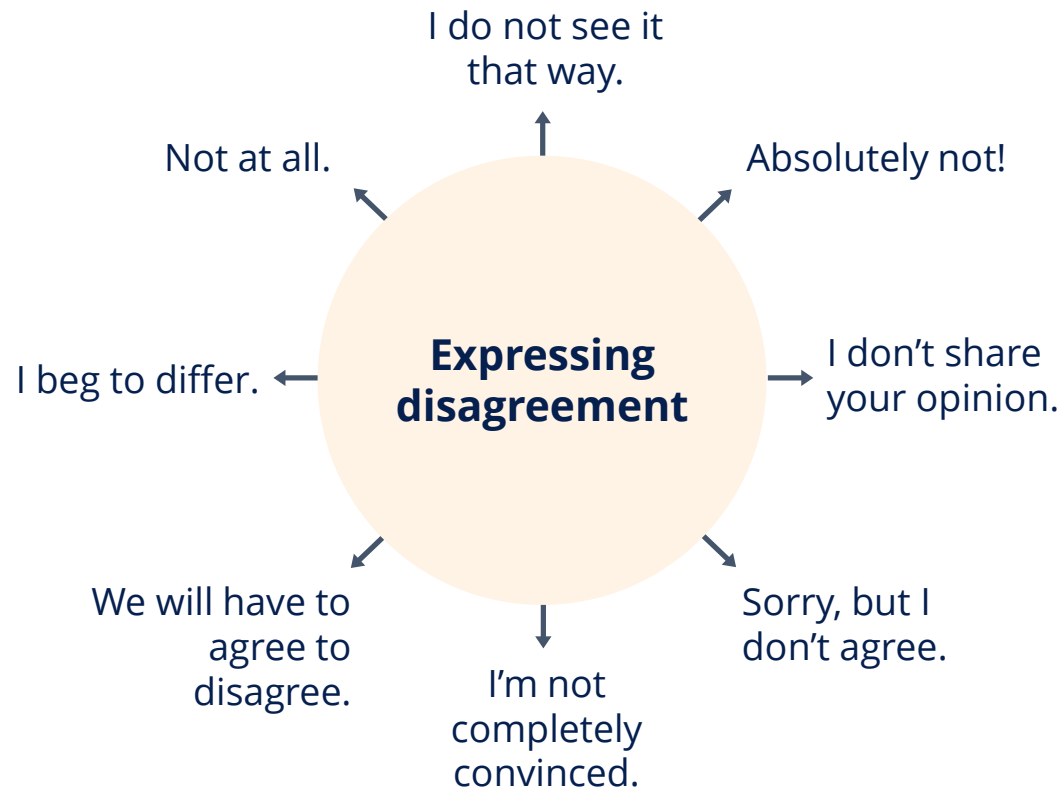


**Have you ever had a  
disagreement at work?  
What happened?**



# Expressing disagreement

1. **Read** the expressions below. 2. Which ones are **new** to you?







**Tell me about it!**

**Let's drop it.**

We use **tell me about** it to say that we feel the same way about something as someone else.

**Let's drop it** means to stop talking about something, usually because it is upsetting or annoying.



# Matching

**Match** the statements with the best response.

**1** New Zealand is the most beautiful country in the world!

**2** Playing video games is the best way to spend your free time.

**3** The music produced today is much better than the music produced 20 years ago.

**4** Pets should be allowed in the office.

**5** If you find money on the ground, it's automatically yours to keep.

**a** I beg to differ. Music nowadays lacks any kind of substance!

**b** I love dogs, but I'm not completely convinced. What if someone is allergic?

**c** That's exactly how I feel! I visited last summer, and the landscape was truly breathtaking.

**d** I share your views completely. Finders keepers!

**e** I'm not completely convinced. Personally, I wouldn't want to spend my free time indoors.



# Fill in the gaps

**Complete** the sentences with the correct word.

- 1 I'm tired of arguing about this! We're getting nowhere, so let's \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 We'll have to \_\_\_\_\_ to disagree.
- 3 My colleague Toby told me he believed that quantity was more important than quality. I said to him, '\_\_\_\_\_ not!'
- 4 My colleague Mary told me that Toby was driving her crazy. I said, '\_\_\_\_\_ about it!'
- 5 I \_\_\_\_\_ your views completely! All employees should get a pay rise.

agree  
exactly  
drop it  
share  
tell me  
absolutely



# What's your opinion?

1. In breakout rooms or together as a class, **share** your opinions of the statements below.
2. **Use** the phrases from the class.



Mobile phones should be banned in schools.

Space exploration is a waste of money.

Self-driving planes will make flying safer.

Cryptocurrency will destroy traditional banks.



# Role-play

1. **Choose** to be either **Linda** or **Christian**.
2. Take **2-3 minutes** to think about your side of the argument.
3. **Agree** and **disagree** with a partner using the phrases below.
4. Then **switch roles**.



**Linda**

*I think we can be just as productive working a 4-day week as working a 5-day week.*

*Working a 4-day week will only put more pressure on employees.*



**Christian**

This is how I see it...

I agree. However,...

That's exactly how I feel.

You're absolutely right.

Not at all.

I beg to differ.

I'm not completely convinced.

Consider the following ideas...

Yes, but on the other hand...



# End of the lesson

Idiom

***a bone to pick (with someone)***

**Meaning:** wanting to talk to someone about something they've done to annoy or upset you

**Example:** I have a bone to pick with you. Why didn't you tell me about the important meeting?



# Additional practice





# Fill in the gaps

**Complete** the sentences with the correct word.

- 1 I disagree for a \_\_\_\_\_ of reasons.
- 2 Yes, but on the other \_\_\_\_\_, I don't think it's such a big deal to bring pets to the office.
- 3 I'm not completely \_\_\_\_\_. I'll need to hear some more sides of the argument.
- 4 We don't see \_\_\_\_\_ on this issue.
- 5 Let's \_\_\_\_\_. There's no point in discussing this issue any further.

hand  
drop it  
number  
eye to eye  
convinced



# What's your opinion?

1. **Share** your opinions of the statements below.
2. **Use** the phrases from the class.

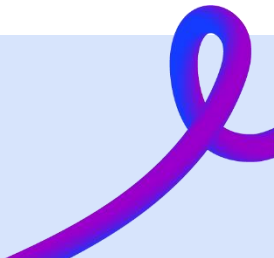


Competitive environments are good for children.

Giving is better than receiving.

There should be a minimum age restriction for owning mobile phones.

All education should be online.





# Discuss

Answer the questions below.

**Do you know anyone who is a good debater?**

**What makes them good at debating in your opinion?**



**Do you think arguing is a skill that can be developed?**

**If so, how can one develop this skill?**



# Answer key

**P.4:**

*Presenting an argument: 2, 4, 5, 6, 7*

*Presenting a counter argument: 1, 3, 8, 9, 10*

**P.6:**

2.) I completely share your views/I share your views completely

3.) I would have said the same.

4.) There is merit in that.

5.) you're absolutely right.

6.) I could not agree more.

**P.10:** 1.) c 2.) e 3.) a 4.) b 5.) d

**P.11:** 1.) drop it 2.) agree 3.) absolutely 4.) tell me 5.) share

**P.17:** 1.) number 2.) hand 3.) convinced 4.) eye to eye 5.) drop it



# Summary

## Sharing arguments

- *This is how I see it...; It is a fact that...; Consider the following ideas...*
- ***It is a fact*** that the product hasn't performed well so far.

## Phrases for agreement

- *To see eye to eye; Tell me about it!; I agree. However...*
- ***We see eye to eye*** on everything.
- ***I agree. However,*** it'll take a lot to convince the manager.

## Phrases for disagreement

- *I disagree for a number of reasons; Another way of viewing this is...; Yes, but on the other hand...; This cannot be the case, since...; to agree to disagree; I beg to differ; Let's drop it*
- ***I beg to differ!*** Helen has a lot of experience in this skill area.



# Vocabulary

I disagree for a number of reasons.

This is how I see it...

Consider the following ideas...

Another way of viewing this is...

Yes, but on the other hand...

I agree. However,...

This cannot be the case, since...

to see eye to eye

to agree to disagree

I beg to differ.

Tell me about it!

Let's drop it.

