Getting the Chairperson's Attention

(Mister/Madam) chairman.

May I have a word?

If I may, I think...

Excuse me for interrupting.

May I come in here?

Giving Opinions

I'm positive that ...

I (really) feel that ...

In my opinion ...

The way I see things...

If you ask me ... I tend to think that...

Asking for Opinions

Are you positive that...

Do you (really) think that ...?

(Name of participant) can we get your

input?

How do you feel about...?

Commenting

That's interest ing.

I never thought about it that way before.

Good point!

I get your point.

I see what you mean.

Agreeing

I totally agree with you.

Exactly!

That's (exactly) the way I feel.

I have to agree with (name of

participant).

Disagreeing

Unfortunately, I see it differently.

Up to a point I agree with you, but...

(I'm afraid) I can't agree

Let's ...

We should...

Why don't you....

How/What about ...

I suggest/recommend that...

Participating in a Meeting

The following phrases are used to participate in a meeting. These phrases are useful for expressing your ideas and giving input to a meeting.

Clarifying

Let me spell out...

Have I made that clear?

Do you see what I'm getting at?

Let me put this another way...

I'd just like to repeat that...

Requesting Information

Please, can you...

I'd like you to...

Would you mind ...?

I wonder if you could...

Asking for Repetition

I'm afraid I didn't understand that. Could

you repeat what you just said? I didn't catch that. Could you repeat that,

please?

I missed that. Could you say it again,

please?

Could you run that by me one more time?

Asking for Clarification

I don't quite follow you. What exactly do

you mean?

I'm afraid I don't quite understand what you

are getting at.

Could you explain to me how that is going to

work?

I don't see what you mean. Could we have

some more details, please?

Asking for Verification

You did say next week, didn't you? ('Did' is

stressed)

Do you mean that ...?

Is it true that ...?

Asking for Spelling

Could you spell that, please?

Would you mind spelling that for me,

please?

Asking for Contributions

We haven't heard from you yet, (name of participant).

What do you think about this

proposal?

Would you like to add anything, (name

of participant)?

Has anyone else got anything to

contribute?

Are there any more comments?

Correcting Information

Sorry, I think you misunderstood what

Sorry, that's not quite right.

I'm afraid you don't understand what

I'm saying.

That's not quite what I had in mind.

That's not what I meant.

Keeping the Meeting on Target (time,

relevance, decisions)

We're running short of time.

Well, that seems to be all the time we

have today.

Please be brief.

I'm afraid we've run out of time.

I'm afraid that's outside the scope of

this meeting.

Let's get back on track, why don't we?

That's not really why we're here today.

Why don't we return to the main focus

of today's meeting?

We'll have to leave that to another

time.

We're beginning to lose sight of the

main point.

Keep to the point, please.

I think we'd better leave that for

another meeting.

Are we ready to make a decision?