

Developing a Discussion

Academic Speaking - Seminars

To participate properly in seminar discussions and tutorials you will be expected to give your own opinions and to respond to other people's ideas.

Useful language

More formal

It is my view that ...

I take the view that ...

I believe ...

Neutral

I think ...

What I think is ...

I'd say that ...

It seems to me that ...

It seem clear / obvious / evident to me that ...

Less formal

As far as I'm concerned ...

Task 5 In pairs (or with your ASK Tutor), practise using these expressions by *quickly* giving your opinion about:

- smoking
- public transport
- the Internet
- snakes
- crime in your country



- British food
- politicians
- traffic in your cities



You will also be expected to express both agreement and disagreement. Use some of the language on the next page to do so.

Useful language

Agreeing

Yes.

Yes, that's right.

Yes, that's true.

Yes, you're (quite / absolutely) right.

Yes. I agree.

That's a good point.

*That's what **I** think.*

Absolutely.

Partly agreeing

Yes, OK, but ...

I see what you mean, but ...

I take your point, but ...

I accept that, but ...

That may be true, but ...

Expressing doubt/

I'm not sure about that ...

Weak disagreement

Is there any evidence for that?

Disagreeing

But surely ...

But don't you think ... ?



But you can't really mean ...?

But there's no evidence for that.

But that goes against ...

But what about ... ?

I don't (really) agree (with you / that ...).

I don't think that's right / true.

I don't see how you can say ...