

EXPRESSIONS FOR CONVERSATION AND PERSONAL COMMENTS

Simple Presentations	
Introduction	<p>Good (morning, afternoon, evening) I'm happy to be here. I'm glad to have this opportunity to . . . Today, I'd like to talk (to you) about . . . My topic today is . . . I'd like to share some thoughts on (topic)</p>
Main points	<p>Let me start by . . . First, let me tell you about . . . First of all, I would like to say/state that... To begin with, I...</p>
Giving examples	<p>For instance, Let me illustrate, To illustrate,</p>
Conclusion	<p>In conclusion, To conclude, To summarize, To sum up,</p>
Giving-Supporting Opinions	
Personal Point of View	<p>In my experience... As far as I'm concerned... Speaking for myself... Personally, I think... I believe that... It seems to me that ... First, ... then, ... lastly..., that's why ...</p> <p style="text-align: right;">In my opinion... What I mean is...</p>
Supporting your opinions	<p>For example, For instance, To give you an example, Let me give you an example, First, (second), etc.</p>
General Point of View	<p>It is thought that... Some people say that... It is considered... It is generally accepted that...</p>
Agreeing with an opinion	<p>That's true Of course You're absolutely right I think so too That's a good point I agree with you entirely</p> <p>Yes, I agree Exactly I couldn't agree more I don't think so either</p> <p style="text-align: right;">That's just what I was thinking</p>
Disagreeing with an opinion	<p>That's different. I don't agree with you. However... That's not entirely true. On the contrary... I'm not so sure about that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">I'm sorry to disagree with you, but... That's not the same thing at all</p>

	Clarifying
Clarifying your own ideas	In other words, What I mean is . . . What I'm trying to say is . . . What I wanted to say was . . . To clarify,
Asking for Clarification	What do you mean (by that)? What are you trying to say? What was that again? Could you clarify that?
Clarifying another ideas	You mean . . . Meaning? (colloquial) What you mean is . . . What you're saying is . . . What he's trying to say is . . . (I think) what she means is . . . If I understand you, (you're saying that . . .) So, you think (that) . . . So, your idea is . . .
	Interrupting
Interrupting politely	Excuse me, Pardon me, I beg your pardon. / Pardon? Sorry to interrupt, May I interrupt (for a minute)? I don't mean to be rude, but . . . Could you repeat what you've just said? But slower, please. Could you slow down a bit?
	Getting back to the topic
	Anyway, Now, where was I? Where were we? What were you saying? You were saying . . . To get back to . . .
	Understanding
Checking for Understanding	(Do you) know what I mean? Do you know what I'm saying? Do you understand? Are you following me? Are you with me (so far)? Have you got it? Any questions? Got it?
Showing Understanding	I see. I understand. I get it./I got it. Gotcha. (Informal)
Expressing	I don't get it.

Lack of Understanding	(I'm sorry.) I don't understand. I don't know for certain. I'm not following you. I'm not sure I get what you mean. What was that again?	I don't know exactly. What do you mean?
Making a Point		
Conceding to Make a Point	That may be true, but . . . I may be wrong, but . . . You might be right, but . . . You have a good point, but . . . You could say that, but . . . Correct me if I'm wrong, but . . . I don't mean to be negative, but . . .	
Asking – Responding for input (aportación, contribución)		
Asking for input	What do you think? How about you? How do you feel about that? Any ideas on that? Any suggestion?	
Responding	That sounds like a good idea. Sounds good. The problem with that is . . .	
Contrasting	On the other hand, However, Yes, but . . . You may be right, but . . . I may be wrong, but . . . Correct me if I'm wrong, but . . .	

Sources: <http://www.eslgold.com/speaking/phrases.html>
<http://enjoyenglish.free.fr/english/lycee/pageshtm/expressing.htm>

Happy Conversation !!



Conversational English

your teacher,
Manuela Efe