

## Seminar Phrases

### Giving Opinions

- In my opinion...
- From my perspective/ point of view...
- It's my sense that...
- In my mind...
- It seems to me / It appears to me...
- I am convinced that...
- I strongly/firmly believe
- There is no question/doubt that...

*Example: It's my sense that adopting the Euro will benefit Europe's economies in numerous ways.*

### Stating facts

- It's well known that....
- It's a fact that....
- I'm positive that....
- I'm absolutely sure that.....

*Example: It's a fact that the Euro will make prices across Europe more transparent.*

### Interrupting

- Yes, but...
- Excuse me but...

*Example: Yes, but it has already lost value against the U.S. dollar.*

### Pinpointing a problem

- It seems to me that...
- The real problem is...
- It's quite clear that...

*Example: The real problem is that not all countries in Europe are necessarily in favour of the EURO which means that only some economies will benefit.*

### Adding Information

- Yes, but...
- Let me add another point...
- Let me just add on what was just said...
- I agree with what X said, but I'd like to add something...
- Furthermore...

*Example: Furthermore, the EURO may not level the economic playing field between countries and different standards of living will continue to exist.*

### Checking that you have understood

- Please correct me if I'm wrong, but...
- Could I ask a few questions to check my understanding of your position?
- Could we go through that again?

*Example: Please correct me if I'm wrong, but isn't the EURO supposed to raise the standards in the less affluent European countries to meet those in the richer countries?*

### Proposing a solution

- What if \_X\_ were to...
- Supposing \_X\_ tried...
- Wouldn't a fair solution...

*Example: Supposing all EU members adopted the Euro for a trial period with the option of abandoning the currency if economic matters failed to improve.*

### Demonstrating Understanding

- If I understood you correctly, you...
- I appreciate your/that point of view...
- I can understand your/that perspective...

*Example: I appreciate your point of view and I agree completely.*

### Focusing on difficulties

- The argument falls apart/is weakened...
- The main issue/problem as I see it...
- Where I have difficulty with your notion(s) is/are...

*Example: The main problem as I see it, is that not all European countries are starting from the same economic departure point.*

### Disagreeing

- I disagree/ completely disagree
- I'm afraid that I can't quite agree
- I can see your point, but...
- I have some reservations about that point of view...

*Example: I disagree with your last point because the EURO will equalize commerce, trade and labour costs.*

### Seeing both sides

- On the one hand...
- One way of looking at it is...
- Yes, but the flip side of the issue is...
- You can't ignore...

*Example: On the one hand adopting the EURO will bolster competition among European nations while on the other hand it will combat U.S., global market domination.*