

## Seminar Language Phrases

Here are a range of useful seminar phrases:

### **Giving Opinions**

In my opinion...

From my perspective/point of view...

It's my understanding 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 understanding 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...

I see what you mean 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 to 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 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.*