

Language Strategies for Academic Interaction

Expressing an Opinion

I think/believe that
In my opinion
From my perspective
From my point of view

Agreeing

I agree with (a person) that
I share your point of view.
My perspective/experience is similar to ___'s.
My idea builds upon ___'s.

Asking for Clarification

What do you mean by ___?
Will you explain that again?
I have a question about ___.
I don't quite understand ___ (the directions).

Reporting a Partner's Idea

___ indicated that
___ pointed out to me that
___ emphasized that
___ shared with me that

Soliciting a Response

What do you think?
We haven't heard from you yet.
Do you agree?
What are your thoughts?

Offering a Suggestion

Maybe we could try ___.
You/We might think about ___.
You/We might consider trying ___.

Drawing Conclusions

Based on my experience, it seems that
The data suggests that
Based on ___, I assume that
After reading ___, I conclude that

Disagreeing

I don't quite agree.
I disagree (somewhat, completely).
I see it differently.
I have a different point of view.

Paraphrasing

So what you are saying is that
In other words, you think
If I understand you correctly,
your opinion/suggestion is that

Reporting a Group's Idea

We decided/agreed/determined that
We concluded that
Our group sees it differently.
We had a different approach.

Holding the Floor

As I was saying
What I was trying to say was
If I could finish my thought
I'd like to complete my thought.

Interjecting an Idea

Can I say something?
Can I add an idea?
I have another approach/idea.