

Expressing Agreement / Disagreement Reactions & Fillers



A1-C2

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Connectors

RELATIVES Who Which That Whose Where	TO ORGANIZE Beginning First, First of all, To start with To begin with In the first place, ...	TO ORGANIZE Continuing Secondly, Then, Next, After that, Afterwards,	TO ORGANIZE Adding Furthermore, Moreover, ...also... ,too. Besides, In addition, What is more... Not only...but also...	TO ORGANIZE Concluding In conclusion, Finally, Lastly, Last but not least,	TO ORGANIZE Summarizing To sum up, In short, Briefly, All in all, All things considered, Taking everything into account,	CONDITIONS If Whether (or) In case Only if Unless (if...not)
TO GIVE YOUR OPINION In my opinion, In my view, To my mind, As far as I am concerned... I think that... I believe that As I see it, I'm pretty sure that I strongly believe that I honestly feel that	TO EXPRESS THE OPINION OF OTHERS People think that... People believe that... It is popularly believed that...	REFERENCE According to regarding (prep.) concerning (prep.) In, with reference to, In, with regard to ...	TO REPHRASE In other words, That is to say, To put it another way, ... In the same way, Similarly,	TO GIVE EXAMPLES For example, For instance, ...such as... ... like... ... especially..	CONTRAST CONJUNCTS But Yet however, whereas, while, nevertheless, on the other hand, on the contrary, In contrast, otherwise, still, while although/even though	CONTRAST PREPOSITIONS in spite of despite
CAUSE CONJUNCTS Because As Since For Now that	CAUSE PREPOSITIONS Because of On account of Due to Owing to	CONSEQUENCE AND EFFECT So Thus Therefore Then as a result, as a consequence, consequently,	PURPOSE To in order to so as to so that...	PREFERENCES I'd prefer to... I'd rather...	AGREEMENT I agree with you I totally agree with you You are totally right I think so, too It is true that... Certainly... I agree with you up to a point I think so, too	DISAGREEMENT You must admit that... Considering that.... I'm afraid I don't agree with you The problem with your point of view is that... I completely disagree with you

Agreeing & Disagreeing

Agreement

- I completely / absolutely agree with you.
- There's no doubt that...
- I couldn't agree more.
- I completely agree.
- That's so true.
- Absolutely. / Exactly. / Of course.
- You're absolutely right.
- Yes, I agree.
- I think so too.
- That's a good point.
- I don't think so either.
- So do I.
- I'd go along with that.
- That's true.
- Neither do I.
- I agree with you entirely.
- That's just what I was thinking.
- I couldn't agree more.

Partial agreement

- I agree up to a point, but...
- That's true, but...
- You could be right.
- It sounds interesting, bit...
- I see your point, but...
- That's partly true, but...
- I'm not sure about that.
- It is only partly true that...
- I can agree with that only with reservations.
- That seems obvious, but...
- That's not necessarily so.
- It is not as simple as it seems.
- I agree with you in principle, but...
- I agree with you in part, but...
- Well, you could be right.
- That might be true; however...

Disagreement

- I cannot share this / that / the view.
- I totally disagree.
- No way!
- I'm afraid I can't agree with you.
- To be honest...
- On the contrary.
- It's out of the question.
- That's different.
- I don't agree with you.
- However...
- That's not entirely true.
- I'm sorry to disagree, but...
- Yes, but don't you think...?
- That's not the same thing at all.
- I'm afraid I have to disagree.
- I'm not sure about that.
- I must take issue with you on that.
- It's unjustifiable to say that...
- What I object to is...

Useful expressions

Listening & responding appropriately

- Can you be more specific / illustrate this?
- Can I just say something?
- So you believe / support / are against...
- I know what you mean, but have you considered...?
- I guess what you're saying is that...

Agreeing & disagreeing politely

- You could be right, I suppose, but...
- That's true, but... / I understand your point, but...
- True, but we must also consider...
- I'm afraid I can't agree. My view is that... / Well, I see this issue very differently. To my mind...
- I couldn't agree more / That's exactly what I was about to say.
- I think we'll agree to disagree.

Suggesting

- Do you think we should...?
- Would ... be appropriate / relevant here?
- What if we included...?

Agreeing & disagreeing: So do I / Neither do I, etc.

- To agree with a positive statement:
 - We use *so + auxiliary/modal verb + pronoun / Me too*:
 - 'I like tea with sugar'
 - 'So do I.' or 'Me too.'
- To agree with a negative statement:
 - We use *nor/neither + auxiliary/modal verb + pronoun / Me neither*:
 - 'I don't like tea with sugar.'
 - 'Nor/Neither do I.' or 'Me neither'
- To disagree with a positive statement:
 - We use *pronoun + auxiliary/modal verb + not*:
 - 'I like tea with sugar.'
 - 'I don't.'
- To disagree with a negative statement:
 - We use *pronoun + auxiliary/modal verb*:
 - 'I don't like tea with sugar.'
 - 'I do.'

Further practice

Agreeing & disagreeing in a discussion

- Here are some expressions you can use to agree and disagree. You will need to use these expressions in a discussion.
- Agreeing
 - That's right!
 - Absolutely!
 - Exactly!
 - Me too!
 - Yes, I agree!
 - I totally agree!
 - I couldn't agree more!
 - I see exactly what you mean!
- Disagreeing
 - I don't agree!
 - I totally disagree!
 - Absolutely not!
 - That's not right!
 - I'm not sure about that.
- Partly agreeing
 - I agree to a point, but...
 - I see your point but...
 - That's partly true, but...
 - I see where you're coming from, but...
- It is always a good idea to justify your opinions. Don't just say 'I agree', but say 'I agree because I think that...' (explain your reason).

Reactions

FEELINGS AND ASKING FOR MORE INFO

Really? What happened?

Oh, my God/gosh! Who was it?

What a pity! How did it turn out in the end?

HOW + ADJECTIVE (How interesting!)

WHAT + NOUN PHRASE (What an interesting idea!)

That rings a bell!

AGREEMENT & DISAGREEMENT

So did / Neither did I!

But I did / But I did not

Me too / Me neither

But I do / But I don't

Further practice

UNDERSTANDING

I see what you mean

I see your point

ASKING FOR EXPLANATIONS

Could you explain that in more detail?

ADVICE

If I were you, I would go for it

If I were in your shoes, I would definitely go for it

REFERENCE

In my case,...

As far as I am concerned,...

Regarding / Concerning me,

As regards me,...

Frankly speaking,...

Well, to be honest with you, ...

Using Fillers to give you time to think

- Well,...
- You know,.../ You know what I mean.
- You see,...
- Let me think...
- Let me organize my ideas...
- I mean,... ; What I mean is...
- Hold on,...I have it right there/ Wait a second, ... I have it on the tip of my tongue,...
- Repeating the sentence of the question they asked you: *"What do you think about what just happened?" "What I think about what just happened... Well... You know..."*

What the British mean

WHAT THE BRITISH SAY	WHAT THE BRITISH MEAN	WHAT FOREIGNERS UNDERSTAND
I hear what you say	I disagree and do not want to discuss it further	He accepts my point of view
With the greatest respect	You are an idiot	He is listening to me
That's not bad	That's good	That's poor
That is a very brave proposal	You are insane	He thinks I have courage
Quite good	A bit disappointing	Quite good
I would suggest	Do it or be prepared to justify yourself	Think about the idea, but do what you like
Oh, incidentally/ by the way	The primary purpose of our discussion is	That is not very important
I was a bit disappointed that	I am annoyed that	It doesn't really matter
Very interesting	That is clearly nonsense	They are impressed
I'll bear it in mind	I've forgotten it already	They will probably do it
I'm sure it's my fault	It's your fault	Why do they think it was their fault?
You must come for dinner	It's not an invitation, I'm just being polite	I will get an invitation soon
I almost agree	I don't agree at all	He's not far from agreement
I only have a few minor comments	Please rewrite completely	He has found a few typos
Could we consider some other options	I don't like your idea	They have not yet decided

Agreeing & Disagreeing Exercise

Further practice

Agreeing and Disagreeing Exercise

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Teacher: I'm tired.
Students:</p> <p>A Neither is we
B So are we
C So are you
D So am I</p> | <p>6 Billy: I hate tomatoes.
Lilly:</p> <p>A So do I
B I do them to
C I do
D Neither do I</p> |
| <p>2 Maggie: I love rice.
Normy: Yuk.</p> <p>A I do
B I don't
C So do I
D Neither do I</p> | <p>7 Sally: I love chocolate.
Polly:</p> <p>A So love me
B So do I
C I love too
D I do</p> |
| <p>3 Elly: I'd like to visit The Greek Islands.
Robby:</p> <p>A So had I
B So would I
C Neither would I
D Neither had I</p> | <p>8 Tommy: I don't like pears.
Sally:</p> <p>A Neither can I
B I don't
C I do
D So do I</p> |
| <p>4 Polly: I went to the cinema on Saturday.
Pammy: What a coincidence.
.....</p> <p>A So was I
B So do I
C So did I
D So went I</p> | <p>9 Polly: My Mum can't stand techno music.
Sally: mine.</p> <p>A So are
B Neither can
C Neither do
D So can</p> |
| <p>5 Mary: I'm not going out tonight.
Shelly:</p> <p>A So do I
B I'm not
C Neither am I
D So am I</p> | <p>10 Johnny: I've never been to Granada.
Sally:</p> <p>A So have I
B So I haven't
C Neither have I
D Neither had I</p> |

Answers

1B 2B 3B 4C 5C 6A 7B 8C 9B 10C