

## Activity Type

Vocabulary and Speaking  
 Activity: binary choice,  
 writing sentences,  
 guided discussion,  
 communicative practice  
 (group work)

## Focus

Stating an opinion,  
 asking for an opinion,  
 agreeing and disagreeing

## Aim

To practice phrases for  
 stating an opinion, asking  
 for an opinion, agreeing  
 and disagreeing.

## Preparation

Make one copy of the  
 worksheet for each  
 student.

## Level

Upper-intermediate (B2)

## Time

45 minutes

## Introduction

This agreeing and disagreeing activity helps students to practice various phrases for stating an opinion, asking for an opinion, agreeing and disagreeing.

## Procedure

Give each student a copy of the worksheet.

First, students choose the correct words to complete phrases for stating an opinion, asking for an opinion, agreeing and disagreeing.

Exercise A - Answer key

Stating an opinion	Asking an opinion	Agreeing	Disagreeing
1. see	idea	absolutely	don't
2. opinion	Do	exactly	differ
3. concerned	feel	couldn't	totally
4. ask	thoughts	true	sure
5. believe	Would	point	true

Next, read the example controversial statement and if necessary give other examples of controversial statements using the topics from the box.

Students then write four controversial statements using the topics on the worksheet. Be careful that the students don't write statements that could cause offense. Monitor and help as needed.

When each student has written four statements, divide the class into groups of three.

Explain that the students are now going to discuss their statements using the phrases from Exercise A. Tell them that they have two minutes to discuss each statement. Have one student in each group time the discussions.

Students take it in turns to read one of the statements from their worksheet. The group then discusses the statement for two minutes using the phrases from Exercise A.

The aim is to try to use as many of the phrases from Exercise A as possible during each discussion. Each time a student says one of the phrases, they score a point and put a tick in the table.

The student with the most points after all the statements have been discussed wins.

**A. Choose the correct words to complete the phrases.**

Stating an opinion	Agreeing
1. The way I <i>know / see</i> it... 2. In my <i>opinion / belief</i> ... 3. As far as I'm <i>afraid / concerned</i> ... 4. If you <i>ask / convinced</i> me... 5. I <i>believe / consider</i> that...	1. You're <i>absolutely / very</i> right. 2. That's <i>exactly / right</i> how I feel. 3. I <i>couldn't / might not</i> agree more. 4. That's so <i>sure / true</i> . 5. You have a <i>point / position</i> there.
Asking for an opinion	Disagreeing
1. What's your <i>idea / think</i> ? 2. <i>Can / Do</i> you agree? 3. How do you <i>feel / think</i> about that? 4. What are your <i>beliefs / thoughts</i> on this? 5. <i>Would / Should</i> you agree that...?	1. I <i>am not / don't</i> think so. 2. I beg to <i>differ / disagree</i> . 3. I <i>really / totally</i> disagree. 4. I'm not <i>agree / sure</i> about that. 5. That's not always <i>factual / true</i> .

**B. Write four controversial statements to discuss. Use the topics below or your own ideas.**

Money	Education	Crime	Health	Technology	Men and Women	Work
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Example: Money is more important than love.

1. ....
2. ....
3. ....
4. ....

**C. In groups of three, discuss each statement in turn using the phrases in Exercise A.**

Score yourself one point each time you use a phrase				Total
Statement 1				
Statement 2				
Statement 3				
Statement 4				
<b>Grand total</b>				