

Everyday Conversations

Egyetértesz velem?

UNIT 8 - How to agree and disagree

Egyetértés kifejezése angolul



Agree and disagree

Sooner or later everyone gets in a situation when they have to agree or disagree with something that is being said. Expressing your opinion is not always easy, and it can be even more difficult when it is not in your first language.

Shaking your head or nodding in approval simply won't be enough to get you ahead in life, but you may worry that your words will not come out properly or that you might hurt somebody's feelings. The best thing to do is to learn and practise some common expressions that are used in discussions and debates.

If you want to speak more politely – mostly if you are using English at work – it is important to learn and know various ways of speaking to express your agreement or disagreement. You want to be able to express your judgment and opinion in a way that will be understood clearly by the listener, and you don't want to seem impolite or rude when you are trying to question another person's opinions concerning the topic you are discussing.



Instructions to agree

- 1) Nod your head and say "yes". This is the simplest way to acknowledge what someone says and that you agree in English.
- 2) Wait until it is your turn to speak, and use expressions such as "I agree with ...," "I think ... is a good idea," and "I think you're right".
- 3) If you agree with everything that the other person says, you can say, "I completely agree" or "You're totally correct/right". If you do not completely agree with what another person has just said add a qualifier to agree, for instance "I agree with you, but ...", "That makes sense, however ..." or "It's a good idea, but ...".



Instructions to disagree

- 1) Even if you disagree, remain calm! Keep any anger or disrespect under control. Calmly express your disagreement and respect the other person's opinions.
- 2) Notice that when you disagree with someone in English, you need to give a reason why you disagree. It is not enough to simply state that you think the other person is wrong. Explain your thoughts and opinions fully. Use phrases such as "I disagree because ...", "The problem with that is ...", "The way I see it ...", "I'm against it because ...", "Instead, I think that ..." to give reason to your opinion.
- 3) Before finishing your disagreement say "I'm afraid ...", for example "I'm afraid I don't agree with you" or "I'm afraid I can't agree" If you do not agree with anything the other person has said, you can say, "I am afraid I completely disagree with you".
- 4) Even if you disagree you should try to offer solutions to the problem. Use phrases such as "I think we should ...", "We could ...", "One solution may be ...".



Simple and basic expressions

Agreement

Yes, I agree completely. – Igen, teljesen egyetértek.

That's exactly what I think. – Én is pont így gondolom.

In my opinion, you are right/correct. – Véleményem szerint igaza(d) van.

You can say that again! – Az már egyszer biztos!/Így van!

I couldn't agree more. – Nem is egyezhetnék ezzel jobban.

There's no doubt about it. – Nincs kétségem efelől.

Disagreement

I disagree with what you're saying. – Nem értek egyet azzal, amit mond(asz).

I don't agree with you./I don't think so./I don't see it like that. – Nem értek veled/Önnel egyet./Nem úgy gondolom. /Nem úgy látom.

I couldn't disagree more./I couldn't agree less. – Nem egyezhetnék kevésbé veled/Önnel.

You've got to be kidding/joking! – **Ugye most viccelsz?**

You can't be serious! – Ezt nem gondolhatod/gondolhatja komolyan!



Simple and basic expressions

Polite expressions of disagreement

I understand what you're saying but... – Értem, amit mondasz, de...

I'm not sure I can agree with what you're saying... – Nem biztos, hogy egyet tudok érteni azzal amit, mondasz...

You could also be right, but... – Lehet, hogy neked van igazad, de...

Everybody has a right to his or her opinion but I think... – Mindenkinek joga van a saját véleményéhez, de én úgy gondolom, hogy...

Yes, but ... – Igen, de...





Simple and basic expressions

Polite expressions of agreement with a negative opinion

I have to agree with you on that. – Egyet kell, hogy értsek.

Unfortunately, I also have to say that... – Sajnos nekem is azt kell mondanom, hogy ...

I must say I also think/thought so. – Azt kell, hogy mondjam, hogy én is így gondolom/gondoltam.

Yes, I'm afraid it is/was ... – Igen, attól tartok, hogy ...



Catching up with someone

Man: Hey, Samantha, is that really you?

Woman: Jim, what a surprise! I haven't seen you for ages. What are you doing in Edinburgh?

Man: I'm on a business trip. So good to see you again. How's the family?

Woman: Luke is fine, he just started a new job. The girls are at college.

Man: Wow, time flies. So you still live in Edinburgh.

Woman: Almost. We moved to a small town 20 minutes away. How about you? Are you still working for Phillips?

Man: No. I started my own business.

Woman: Congratulations. How exciting.

Man: It's in the early stages yet but I hope it will work out.

Woman: How long are you here for?

Man: We're here for 3 days. My girlfriend came along, she hadn't been to Edinburgh before.

Woman: Then we must meet up. Luke will be delighted to see you again. And we'd love to meet your girlfriend.

Man: That would be great. Shall we have dinner at the pub?

Woman: Sounds good. We haven't been there for years either.

Man: Take my card so you have my phone number. Tell Luke to ring me tomorrow, I'm having a meeting in the evening.

Woman: Thanks. Looking forward to seeing you two. Bye.



Catching up with someone

IMPORTANT PHRASES

What a surprise! – Micsoda meglepetés!

I haven't seen you for ages. – Ezer éve nem láttalak.

So good to see you again. – Olyan jó, hogy újra látlak!

Time flies. – Repül az idő.

I started my own business. – Saját vállalkozásba kezdtem.

Congratulations. – Gratulálok.

It's in the early stages. – Még korai szakaszban van.

It will work out. – Menni fog. Működni fog.

How long are you here for? – Mennyi időre jöttél? Meddig leszel itt?

That would be great. – Az nagyszerű lenne.

Sounds good. – Jól hangzik.

Shall we do something? – Csináljunk valamit?

Looking forward to seeing you. – Már alig várom, hogy találkozzunk.



Catching up with someone

IMPORTANT WORDS

really – valóban

business trip – üzleti út

college – főiskola

wow – Hú!/Húha!

still – még mindig

almost – majdnem

exciting – izgalmas

to come along – jönni valakivel, elkísérni

to meet up – találkozni

to be delighted to – örülni valaminek

to ring somebody – felhívni valakit

to have a meeting – találkozója van valakinek

to look forward to – alig várni valamit