

Activity 1: Building a discussion together

Hand out: Building a discussion together

Activity A – Planning a leaving party for a classmate.

1. Prepare ideas for the party on each of the headings. Think of at least two options.



2. For each of the options, make notes about reasons for and reason against each option.

For example:

Heading	Options	Reasons for	Reason against
Venue	Classroom at college	Would not have to pay for the venue	Limited availability – only available after lessons
	Hire a community hall	More flexible	Cost
Day and time			
Who to invite			
Food and drink			
Music			
Entertainment			

Activity B

1. Use the phrases below to complete the table, and add two more examples of your own.

Function	Phrases
Expressing complete agreement	<i>Well, I totally agree...</i>
Expressing some agreement	
Expressing disagreement	
Making a suggestion	
Asking for an opinion	
Introducing an opinion	
Responding to an opinion	
Asking for a reason	
Confirming understanding	
Asking for clarification	
Giving reasons	

Perhaps, but...

Well, I don't think...

Yes, but...

Well, I totally agree...

I don't think that's right.

You're absolutely right.

I don't agree at all.

I see...

What's your opinion?

What do you think?

I think...

I think we should....

Why do you think that?

Yes, exactly.

You mean...?

That's an interesting idea.

That's a good point.

So, you think that...?

I think... because...

2. Complete the dialogues using the phrases above or your own expressions.

Have you thought about a venue for the party? I think we should hire a community hall. What's your opinion?

Perhaps, but the classroom is only available during the week. The college is closed at weekend. So, you think we should have the party during the week?

3. Using your ideas above, discuss the topic with a partner. Remember to use the ideas from Activity 1 and phrases from Activity 2.

One of your classmates is leaving. You want to organise a leaving party for her. Talk about what you will need and plan the party together.