

## Seminar Phrases Sheet #1

### Giving Opinions

- ⌚ In my opinion...
- ⌚ From my perspective/ point of view...
- ⌚ It's my sense that...
- ⌚ In my mind...
- ⌚ It seems to me / It appears to me...
- ⌚ I am convinced that...
- ⌚ I strongly/firmly believe
- ⌚ There is no question/doubt that...

*Example: **It's my sense that** adopting the Euro will benefit Europe's economies in numerous ways.*

### Stating facts

- ⌚ It's well known that....
- ⌚ It's a fact that....
- ⌚ I'm positive that....
- ⌚ I'm absolutely sure that.....

*Example: **It's a fact that** the Euro will make prices across Europe more transparent.*

### Interrupting

- ⌚ Yes, but...
- ⌚ May I just come in here,...

*Example: **Yes, but** it has already lost value against the U.S. dollar.*

### Pinpointing a problem

- ⌚ It seems to me that...
- ⌚ The real problem is...
- ⌚ It's quite clear that...

*Example: **The real problem is** that not all countries in Europe are necessarily in favour of the EURO which means that only some economies will benefit.*

### Adding Information

- ⌚ Yes, but...
- ⌚ Let me add another point...
- ⌚ Let me just add on what was just said...
- ⌚ I agree with what X said, but I'd like to add something...
- ⌚ Furthermore...

*Example: **Furthermore,** the EURO may not level the economic playing field between countries and different standards of living will continue to exist.*

### **Checking that you have understood**

- 🕒 Please correct me if I'm wrong, but...
- 🕒 Could I ask a few questions to check my understanding of your position?
- 🕒 Could we go through that again?

*Example: Please correct me if I'm wrong, but isn't the EURO supposed to raise the standards in the less affluent European countries?*

### **Proposing a solution**

- 🕒 What if \_X\_ were to...
- 🕒 Supposing \_X\_ tried...
- 🕒 Wouldn't a fair solution be...

*Example: Supposing all EU members adopted the Euro for a trial period with the option of abandoning the currency if economic matters failed to improve.*

### **Demonstrating Understanding**

- If I understood you correctly, you...
- So what you're saying is...
- Just to clarify, you mean...
- 🕒 I can understand your/that perspective in that ..

*Example: I appreciate your point of view and I agree completely.*

### **Focusing on difficulties**

- 🕒 The argument falls apart/is weakened...
- 🕒 The main issue/problem as I see it...
- 🕒 Where I have difficulty with your notion(s) is/are...

*Example: The main problem as I see it, is that not all European countries are starting from the same economic departure point.*

### **Disagreeing**

- 🕒 I disagree/ completely disagree
- 🕒 I'm afraid that I can't quite agree
- 🕒 I can see your point, but...
- 🕒 I have some reservations about that point of view...

*Example: I disagree with your last point because the EURO will equalize commerce, trade and labour costs.*

### **Seeing both sides**

- 🕒 On the one hand...
- 🕒 One way of looking at it is...
- 🕒 Yes, but the flip side of the issue is...
- 🕒 You can't ignore...

*Example: On the one hand adopting the EURO will bolster competition among European nations while on the other hand it will combat U.S., global market domination.*