Script 16
Expressing and Justifying an Opinion Effectively

Before you begin your oral interaction, have a look at how these students did it. You can note some of the expressions they use to help you initiate and maintain conversations as well as interrupt politely.

REMEMBER:

-MAKE SURE EVERYONE GETS A CHANCE TO INTERACT.

-DON'T JUST GIVE YOUR INDIVIDUAL OPINION, REACT TO WHAT OTHER PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

-IF YOU HAVE TO INTERRUPT SOMEONE, MAKE SURE YOU DO SO POLITELY.

-MAKE SURE EVERYONE GETS TO EXPRESS THEIR IDEAS TO THE FULLEST.

St 1:

Hello, my name is __ .

Every student identifies himself or herself with their first name.

(Introduce yourselves)

St 2: Ok, so can someone repeat what the task is?

(Ask questions / clarify the task)

St 3: Yes, we need to pick a question and discuss our answers or opinions. When we're finished with one, we can choose another. We have to interact for 15 minutes.

St 4: Is everyone ready? Do you have any questions?

St 1: Do we have to answer all the questions in 15 minutes?

St 3-4: No.

St 2: Ready? Ok, so I want to start with question number 2: Using examples from the unit, explain if you agree or disagree with this quote."W...
(Initiate: Propose and give an initial opinion)

St 3:You said you agreed, but can you please explain why?
(Help the conversation move further)

St 1: Yes, I agree because...
(Justify your opinions)

St 3: What you say is true. For example, during the unit we saw that...
(Support your opinions with examples from the unit)

St 4: Yes, but don't forget that...
(React and add to what others are saying)

St 3: Oh, I'm sorry, that's not what I meant. What I mean is...
(Politely interrupt / Clarify meaning)

St 4: Ah, uh yes, that's a good point, but ...
(Bring new ideas or aspects to the discussion)

St 1: Are we finished with this question? If we're done, we can move on to another one...

(Ask if others are finished before moving to another question)

ALL STUDENTS AGREE

St 1: so how about question number 5: Does risking or giving one's life for a cause add value to a person's message?

Students continue discussion

St 1: Ok, so we are almost at 15 minutes...

St 2: Nice work everyone...

St 3: Yes, thanks for asking me questions, it helped me develop my ideas.

St 4: No problem.

St 1: Ok, don't forget to...

St 2: oh, yes, we have to submit...

Together closing: BYE!