

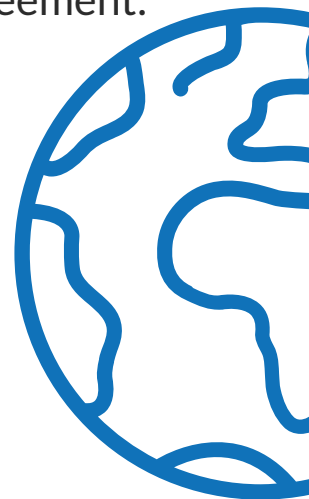
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PRAISE SOMEONE'S OPINION!

It's important to tell your colleagues what you think of their opinions. However, when you want to disagree with a co-worker, you should try to be polite and acknowledge their opinion before you disagree. Your colleagues and other team members will respect your opinions and ideas more if you disagree politely.

Phrases such as "I disagree with you" or "I don't think that's a good idea" can be too direct. Instead, use phrases like the ones below because they acknowledge your colleague's opinion before you show your disagreement:

- ✓ That's a good idea/point, but ...
- ✓ I partially agree, but ...
- ✓ I understand your opinion, but ...
- ✓ I agree up to a point, but ...
- ✓ That makes sense to me, but ...
- ✓ I see your point, but ...



After acknowledging your co-worker's opinion, you can explain why you disagree, state your own opinion or make another suggestion. See the dialogues below for examples of this.

EXAMPLES

Neil: What kind of restaurant do you think we should take the visitors to?

Takeshi: In my opinion, we should take them to a sushi restaurant because sushi is the most famous food in Japan.

Neil: That's a good idea, but I'm not sure that all the visitors will be able to eat raw fish.



Setsu: What do you think is the best idea for the next team-building activity?

Tamako: I think we should go bowling because it's always popular.

Setsuko: I understand your opinion, but I believe we should hold an online party because of the current coronavirus situation.

Rex: What are your thoughts on the layout for the new office?

Mina: I'm sure that individual offices would be best because we need to concentrate on our work.

Rex: I partially agree, but in my opinion, we should have an open-plan office because we need to be able to communicate easily with other members of our team.

Stuart: What new service do you think we should introduce to the site?

Matt: I think we should have a gym where employees can exercise.

Stuart: That's a great idea, but have you considered introducing a nursery onsite as there are many employees with young children?

YOUR TURN!

Ask for an opinion about one of the topics below. After your partner gives their opinion, disagree with them and explain why and/or give your own opinion on the topic.

- 1) A new layout for the office - (an open-plan office vs. individual offices)
- 2) A way to work - (working from home vs working at the office)
- 3) A way to have lunch at work - (eating lunch in the cafeteria vs. eating lunch at your desk)
- 4) A way to commute to the office - (coming to work by car vs. coming to work by public transport)
- 5) A way to spend your lunch break - (walking around the site vs. having a nap in the relaxation room)
- 6) A way to have English classes - (onsite English classes vs. virtual English classes)
- 7) A new service onsite for Micron employees



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