

# October 2023 OPEN Basic Workshop

**Asking For and Giving Opinions**

# Asking For and Giving Opinions

In meetings at work, you may be asked for your opinion on a topic. In order to share your expertise with your co-workers, you will need to know some phrases for **giving opinions**.

Sometimes, you may feel strongly about the topic and want to **make your opinion stronger**, or you may just want to give a **neutral or tentative opinion**. In addition, it is useful to know some phrases for **asking for opinions** when you want to know the opinions of others.

In this workshop, you will learn some useful phrases for **asking for and giving opinions**. These will help you to participate more effectively in meetings at work.

# Asking for Opinions

- What do you think about ...?
- How do you feel about ...?
- What's your opinion of ...?
- What are your thoughts on ...?
- What are your views on ...?

- What do you think about doing volunteer activities on weekends?
- What's your opinion of the food in the Micron cafeteria at your site?
- What are your thoughts on the security at your Micron site?

# Giving a Strong Opinion

I (strongly) believe that ...

I'm (absolutely) convinced that ...

I'm sure that ...

I'm certain that ...

I have no doubt that ...

## Example sentences

**I strongly believe** that we need to extend the deadline of this project.

**I'm sure that** the team building activity will be a success this month.

**I have no doubt that** the English Helpdesk is an essential service at Micron.

**Note:** You can make strong opinions even stronger by adding an adverb, such as “**absolutely**”.



# Giving a Medium or Neutral Opinion

I think ...

I feel ...

In my (opinion / view), ...

From my (point of view / perspective), ...

I would say that ...

## Example sentences

**I think** the second proposal is the best solution to this problem.

**In my opinion**, we should do more tests before resuming production.

**I would say that** the special event in the cafeteria was very popular.



# Giving a Weak or Tentative Opinion

I guess ...

I suppose ...

I imagine ...

It seems to me that ...

I'm not sure, but ...

## Example sentences

**I guess** the survey wasn't very successful as few people responded.

**It seems to me that** the onsite parking lot has become more crowded recently.

**I'm not sure, but** I think it's unlikely that Hiroshima will win the league next season.





## Example Conversations

**Keiko:** **What's your opinion of** the English Helpdesk at Micron?

**Takashi:** **I strongly believe** the English Helpdesk is an essential service. They proofread hundreds of Micron's documents every month. In addition, they hold one-to-one training sessions at the Helpdesk and run workshops on Zoom.

**Tom:** **What are your thoughts on** the new shuttle bus service from the car park?

**Hiroshi:** **In my opinion,** it's a good idea. It will be a great support to older or disabled employees. Also, it will be helpful when the weather is bad.

**Ken:** **What do you think about** doing volunteer activities on weekends?

**Saya:** **I suppose** it's a good thing to do, but I haven't done it before. I guess I feel like I need a rest on the weekend after a busy week at work.

# Workshop activity

You are going to ask other participants in this workshop for their opinion. Select a topic from the list and ask the next person for their opinion. When you give your opinion, use phrases presented in this workshop and decide the strength of your opinion. If possible, give a reason for your opinion too.

- 1) The food in the cafeteria at your site
- 2) Doing volunteer activities on weekends
- 3) The security at your Micron site
- 4) Meetings at Micron
- 5) Team-building events at Micron
- 6) The IT Service Desk at Micron
- 7) Having a gym at your Micron site
- 8) Your work-life balance at Micron
- 9) Summer in Japan
- 10) Japanese food
- 11) Life in your town or city
- 12) Studying English
- 13) Travelling in Japan
- 14) Shopping online
- 15) Owning a pet
- 16) Global warming



# English Helpdesk – 2023

