

LISTENING – EXPRESSING OPINIONS

1 (Track 8) Listen and match each conversation (1 – 6) with a topic (a – f).

- a smoking _____ b exams _____
c computer games _____ d vegetarianism _____
e traffic _____ f obesity _____

2 Listen to each conversation again. Do the people agree or disagree?

- 1 agree
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____
6 _____

3 Listen once more and write three expressions in each column.

Expressions to agree with someone	Expressions to disagree with someone
<i>That's exactly what I think.</i>	

DEFENDING OPINIONS

Speaking strategy: Arguing your point

1 Match each statement (a – e) with a response (1 – 5).

- a I think politicians these days are all the same. 4
b I believe that marriage should be for life. _____

c From my point of view, killing animals for sport is wrong. _____

d It seems to me that the world is getting more dangerous. _____

e In my opinion, working overtime is too stressful. _____

1 **You may be right, but** a lot of people enjoy hunting.

2 **I may be wrong, but** isn't there less crime these days?

3 **I agree to some extent, but** the extra money is handy.

4 **Yes, but** it's still important to vote.

5 **I know what you mean, but** isn't divorce increasing?

To rehearse and prepare for your final speeches do the following exercises.

2 (Track 9) Listen to each statement in Exercise 1 (a – e) and speak each response.

3 Listen again to each statement and give different response. Begin each reply with one of the expressions in bold.

4 (Track 10) Now listen and respond to five more statements. Begin each reply with one of the expressions in bold.

Example: a

You hear: If you ask me, there are too many cars on the roads these days.

You say: *I know what you mean, but everyone needs a car.*

(Source: Real Listening and Speaking by Miles Craven. CUP, 2008.)