

I See It Differently: 4 Polite Ways to Disagree

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

9 learning entries

Study task: Listen again and notice the expressions you studied.

1

I take your point, but...

DEF

I understand your argument, although I still have a different view or concern.

Acknowledge the other person's reasoning sincerely before presenting your contrast.

I take your point, but the deadline may be too ambitious.

I take your point, but we should test the idea first.

2

I see it differently

DEF

I have a different interpretation or opinion.

Calm and direct; it focuses on perspective rather than declaring the other person wrong.

I see it differently because the risk is quite small.

We agree on the goal, but I see the method differently.

3

I'm not sure I agree

DEF

I have doubts about accepting that opinion or proposal.

Not sure softens the disagreement; your voice should sound thoughtful, not sarcastic.

I'm not sure I agree that a longer meeting will help.

I'm not sure I agree with that conclusion.

4

That's not necessarily the case

DEF

That statement is not always true; there may be exceptions or missing information.

It challenges a general claim without saying that the entire idea is completely false.

Working from home always reduces teamwork. That's not necessarily the case.

Expensive equipment guarantees better results. That's not necessarily the case.

5

I understand where you're coming from, but...

DEF

I understand the experience or reasoning behind your view, although I disagree.

Especially useful when emotions or personal experience influence the conversation.

I understand where you're coming from, but we still need a clear policy.

I understand where you're coming from, but the budget is limited.



6

I'm not convinced that...

DEF

I do not yet believe that an idea, claim or plan is correct or effective.

Professional and evidence-focused; it invites the other person to provide stronger reasons.

I'm not convinced that this change will save time.

I'm not convinced that we have enough information yet.

7

We may have to agree to disagree

DEF

We may need to accept that neither person will change their opinion.

Use it to close a respectful disagreement when further debate is unlikely to help.

We may have to agree to disagree on that point.

We still respect each other, but we will agree to disagree.

8

Could there be another way to look at it?

DEF

Could we consider a different perspective or interpretation?

A question that opens the discussion instead of directly rejecting the first idea.

Could there be another way to look at the problem?

Before we decide, could there be another way to look at it?

9

I agree up to a point

DEF

I partly agree, but not completely.

State the area of agreement first, then explain calmly where your view changes.

I agree up to a point, but cost is not the only factor.

I agree up to a point; however, the plan still needs testing.

