

Opinions, Ideas and Arguments

Vocabulary Lesson, Examples & Practice Questions

Opinions, Ideas and Arguments

Have you ever had a conversation where you strongly disagreed with someone, or wanted to share your point of view but didn't know the right words? Being able to express your opinions clearly, discuss ideas confidently, and argue your case politely is a vital skill in English — and in life.

In this lesson, we explore the key vocabulary you need to share opinions, present ideas, and take part in arguments and discussions at a B1 intermediate level.

Situation: A Group Discussion

Tom, Priya, and Marcus are students. Their teacher has asked them to discuss this question: "Should mobile phones be banned in schools?" Here is part of their conversation:

"In my opinion, phones are a huge distraction," said Tom. "I strongly believe students concentrate better without them."

"I see your point," replied Priya, "but I disagree. To my mind, phones can be useful learning tools."

"That's a fair argument," said Marcus, "but I'd have to say I agree with Tom. There's plenty of evidence to support a ban."

Notice how the students use specific phrases and vocabulary to express opinions, respond to others, and build an argument. Let's look at all of this vocabulary in detail.

Key Vocabulary & Meaning Breakdown

1. Expressing Opinions and Points of View

Word / Phrase	Part of Speech & Meaning	Example Sentence	Collocations / Notes
opinion	<i>noun</i> — what you think or believe about something	In my opinion, the film was too long.	in my opinion; give an opinion; ask for someone's opinion; share an opinion
point of view	<i>noun phrase</i> — a particular way of thinking about something; a perspective	I understand your point of view, but I think differently.	from my point of view; see someone's point of view; consider different points of view
perspective	<i>noun</i> — the way someone sees or understands a	From a student's perspective, homework	from a ... perspective; give/offer a perspective; change your

Word / Phrase	Part of Speech & Meaning	Example Sentence	Collocations / Notes
	situation, often based on their experience	can feel like too much pressure.	perspective
believe	<i>verb</i> — to think that something is true or right	I believe that learning a language takes time and practice.	strongly believe; believe in something; I believe (that) + clause
feel	<i>verb</i> — to have a particular opinion or emotion about something	I feel that we should give everyone a chance to speak.	feel strongly about; feel that + clause; I feel + adjective
reckon	<i>verb (informal)</i> — to think or have an opinion about something (used in spoken English)	I reckon we should leave early to avoid the traffic.	I reckon (that) + clause; used in casual conversation, not formal writing
attitude	<i>noun</i> — a settled way of thinking or feeling about something	Her attitude towards the new project was very positive.	a positive/negative attitude; attitude towards/to something; change your attitude
impression	<i>noun</i> — a feeling or idea you get about something or someone	My first impression of the city was that it was very busy.	first impression; give an impression; have the impression that; make an impression

2. Agreeing and Disagreeing

Word / Phrase	Part of Speech & Meaning	Example Sentence	Collocations / Notes
agree	<i>verb</i> — to have the same opinion as someone else	I completely agree with what you said about the environment.	agree with someone; agree on something; agree to do something; I couldn't agree more
disagree	<i>verb</i> — to have a different opinion from someone	I disagree with the idea that technology is always helpful.	disagree with someone/something; strongly disagree; agree to disagree
see someone's point	<i>phrase</i> — to understand why someone thinks the way they do, even if you disagree	I can see your point, but I still think we need more time.	I see your point; I take your point; see the point of something
fair point	<i>noun phrase</i> — an opinion or reason that is	That's a fair point — maybe we should reconsider the plan.	That's a fair point; make a fair point; raise a fair point

Word / Phrase	Part of Speech & Meaning	Example Sentence	Collocations / Notes
	reasonable and worth considering		
have to disagree	<i>phrase</i> — a polite way of expressing disagreement	I'm afraid I'd have to disagree with that conclusion.	I'm afraid I have to disagree; I'd have to disagree — used to soften disagreement
on the other hand	<i>linking phrase</i> — used to introduce an opposite or contrasting idea	Phones can be distracting. On the other hand, they can also be very useful.	on the other hand; on one hand ... on the other hand ...
however	<i>adverb / linking word</i> — used to introduce a contrasting idea or limitation	The plan sounds good. However, it might be too expensive.	however + comma; used at the start of a sentence or after a semicolon
although	<i>conjunction</i> — despite the fact that; even though	Although I understand your argument, I don't fully agree.	although + subject + verb; do not confuse with "however"

3. Arguments, Evidence and Reasoning

Word / Phrase	Part of Speech & Meaning	Example Sentence	Collocations / Notes
argument	<i>noun</i> — a reason or set of reasons given to support an idea; also a disagreement between people	She made a strong argument for reducing car use in city centres.	make/put forward an argument; a strong/weak argument; win/lose an argument
evidence	<i>noun</i> — facts or information that show something is true	There is plenty of evidence that exercise improves mental health.	evidence of/for something; provide/show evidence; there is evidence that + clause
support	<i>verb / noun</i> — to agree with or provide reasons for an idea or opinion	Do you have any data to support that claim?	support an argument/idea/view; support + noun; in support of something
claim	<i>noun / verb</i> — a statement that something is true, which may or may not be proven	He claims that social media is making people unhappy.	make a claim; claim (that) + clause; a bold/false claim; support/reject a claim
point	<i>noun</i> — a single idea or fact used in a discussion or argument	She made several good points during the debate.	make a point; a good/valid/key point; get to the point; miss the point

Word / Phrase	Part of Speech & Meaning	Example Sentence	Collocations / Notes
reason	<i>noun</i> — a fact or explanation that shows why something is true or should happen	Give me one good reason why we should change the plan.	give a reason; the reason for something; for this reason; reason + to + infinitive
conclusion	<i>noun</i> — a final decision or opinion reached after thinking something through	After much discussion, we came to the conclusion that more research was needed.	come to/reach a conclusion; draw a conclusion; jump to conclusions
debate	<i>noun / verb</i> — a formal or serious discussion about a topic where people express different opinions	There is a lot of debate about whether homework is useful.	a heated debate; open a debate; join a debate; debate a topic/issue
convince	<i>verb</i> — to make someone believe something is true or to persuade them to do something	He tried to convince me that his plan was the best option.	convince someone of something; convince someone to do something; I'm not convinced
consider	<i>verb</i> — to think carefully about something before making a decision or expressing an opinion	We should consider all the arguments before making a final decision.	consider + noun/-ing; consider doing something; all things considered

Collocations & Useful Expressions

Learning how words combine naturally with other words — called **collocations** — helps you sound more fluent. Here are the most important collocations for opinions, ideas, and arguments:

Expressing Opinions

in my opinion

In my opinion, working from home has many benefits.

Use this phrase at the start of a sentence to introduce your personal view.

to my mind

To my mind, the most important issue is education.

A slightly more formal way of saying "in my opinion."

as far as I'm concerned

As far as I'm concerned, we've already waited long enough.

Used to emphasise that this is your personal view, and others may disagree.

I strongly believe (that)

I strongly believe that everyone deserves equal opportunities.

Use **strongly** to show you feel very sure about your opinion.

I tend to think (that)

I tend to think that small changes can make a big difference.

A softer, less direct way of giving an opinion — useful for polite conversations.

Agreeing

I couldn't agree more

"We need better public transport." — "I couldn't agree more!"

Used to show complete and enthusiastic agreement.

That's exactly what I think

That's exactly what I think — we need to act now.

You have a point

You have a point — it is expensive, but it's worth it.

Acknowledges that the other person's idea has some merit.

Disagreeing Politely

I'm not sure I agree with that

I'm not sure I agree with that — the research suggests something different.

I see what you mean, but ...

I see what you mean, but I think we're missing an important point.

Acknowledge the other person's view before giving your own — very polite and natural.

I'm afraid I disagree

I'm afraid I disagree — I think the evidence shows the opposite.

A formal and polite way of disagreeing.

Building an Argument

put forward an argument

She put forward a strong argument for changing the law.

make a point

He made a very good point about the cost of the project.

come to a conclusion

After a long discussion, they came to a conclusion that satisfied everyone.

provide evidence

Can you provide any evidence to support your claim?

support an argument

These statistics clearly support the argument for better healthcare funding.

Important Differences & Confusing Words

Opinion, View, or Belief?

These three words are very similar but are used in slightly different ways.

Word	Meaning	Example	Key Note
opinion	What you personally think about something — can be based on feelings or limited knowledge	In my opinion, the restaurant wasn't worth the price.	Most common and flexible; used in both formal and informal situations
view	What you think about something, often based on knowledge or experience; similar to opinion but slightly more formal	What are your views on climate change?	Often used in discussions of serious or complex topics; "views on" is a common collocation
belief	Something you strongly feel is true, often related to values, religion, or deep personal conviction	It is my belief that every child deserves a good education.	Stronger than opinion; suggests a deep or long-held conviction

Argument or Discussion?

Argument and **discussion** can both describe people talking about different ideas, but they are not always the same:

- A **discussion** is a conversation where people share ideas calmly and openly. It does not have to involve disagreement.
We had a really interesting discussion about travel after class.
- An **argument** can mean either: (1) a reason or set of reasons used to support an idea (formal/neutral), or (2) an angry disagreement between people (informal/negative).
She made a convincing argument for the new policy. (= a set of reasons)
We had a big argument about whose turn it was to do the washing up. (= an angry disagreement)

Context will tell you which meaning is intended. At B1 level, be careful not to always assume "argument" is negative.

Convince or Persuade?

These two verbs are very close in meaning, but the grammar patterns are different:

- **Convince** is followed by *someone of something* or *someone + that clause*:
She convinced me that the plan would work.
He convinced me of the importance of saving money.
- **Persuade** is often followed by *someone to do something*:
She persuaded me to try the new restaurant.
He persuaded us to stay a little longer.

In everyday conversation, many speakers use both words interchangeably, but in formal writing it is better to follow these patterns correctly.

Although, However, or Despite?

These three words all introduce a contrast, but the grammar is different for each:

- **Although** is a conjunction — it connects two clauses in one sentence:
Although I understand your point, I still disagree.

- **However** is an adverb — it usually starts a new sentence or clause, followed by a comma:
The idea sounds good. However, it will cost a lot of money.
- **Despite** is a preposition — it is followed by a noun or a gerund (-ing form):
Despite the high cost, I think we should go ahead.
Despite working hard, she didn't pass the exam.

Common Mistakes

- ✗ In my opinion, I think that homework should be banned.
- ✓ **In my opinion, homework should be banned.** — Do not use both "in my opinion" and "I think" together. They mean the same thing, so choose one.
- ✗ He convinced me to change my mind about it.
- ✓ **He persuaded me to change my mind about it.** — Use *persuade + someone + to do something*. Use *convince + someone + that* (e.g. He convinced me that I was wrong).
- ✗ Although the argument was good, but I didn't agree.
- ✓ **Although the argument was good, I didn't agree.** — Do not use "but" after "although." "Although" already shows the contrast — adding "but" is a double connector and incorrect in English.
- ✗ She made me a strong argument for leaving early.
- ✓ **She made a strong argument for leaving early.** — The correct phrase is *make an argument for/against something*, not *make someone an argument*.
- ✗ I am agree with your point of view.
- ✓ **I agree with your point of view.** — "Agree" is a verb in English, not an adjective. Never say "I am agree." Always say "I agree."
- ✗ From my point of view of, we should try a different approach.
- ✓ **From my point of view, we should try a different approach.** — The correct phrase is *from my point of view* (no extra "of" at the end).
- ✗ Despite the weather was bad, we still went out.
- ✓ **Despite the bad weather, we still went out.** — "Despite" must be followed by a noun phrase or an -ing verb, never by a subject + verb clause. Use "although" if you want to use a clause: *Although the weather was bad, we still went out.*

Opinions, Ideas and Arguments: Quick Summary & Review

Here is a quick summary of the key vocabulary and ideas from this lesson:

- Use phrases like **in my opinion**, **to my mind**, and **as far as I'm concerned** to introduce your personal opinion.
- Use **believe**, **feel**, and **reckon** (informal) to express what you think is true.
- Show agreement with phrases like **I couldn't agree more** and **you have a point**.
- Disagree politely with **I see what you mean, but ...** or **I'm afraid I disagree**.
- Build arguments using **evidence**, **reasons**, and key phrases like **put forward an argument** and **support a claim**.
- Connect contrasting ideas with **although** (+ clause), **however** (+ sentence), and **despite** (+ noun/-ing).

- Remember the difference between **opinion**, **view**, and **belief** — they are similar but not always interchangeable.
- Never say **I am agree** — always say **I agree**.

Now practise **opinions, ideas and arguments** vocabulary in the exercises below.

Opinions, Ideas and Arguments – Practice Test

B1 | Practice Exercises: Multiple Choice, Fill-in-the-Gap, Fill-in-the-Blank, Matrix Matching & Sorting

Part 1: Multiple Choice (Questions 1–10)

1 She had a strong _____ that the new policy was unfair to students.

- A** feeling
- B** opinion
- C** view
- D** belief

2 He tried to _____ his classmates that recycling was important, but they didn't listen.

- A** convince
- B** discuss
- C** explain
- D** argue

3 In my _____, we should spend more money on public transport.

- A** idea
- B** view
- C** thought
- D** mind

4 The politician made a very _____ argument about the need for better schools.

- A** strong
- B** heavy
- C** hard
- D** loud

5 Both sides _____ to an agreement after a long discussion.

- A** came
- B** arrived
- C** reached
- D** got

6 I completely _____ with you — I think the manager made the right decision.

- A** support
- B** agree
- C** approve
- D** accept

7 He raised an interesting _____ about whether technology is making us less social.

- A** point
- B** idea
- C** comment
- D** fact

8 What is your _____ on the idea of working from home every day?

- A** statement
- B** standpoint
- C** position
- D** conclusion

9 She couldn't _____ up with a good reason why the project should be cancelled.

- A** think
- B** come
- C** bring
- D** make

10 After listening to both sides, the judge said she needed time to _____ a conclusion.

- A** make
- B** reach
- C** do
- D** take

Part 2: Fill in the Gap (Questions 11–20)

11 I completely ____ with your point. I think you are absolutely right.

- A** agree
- B** argue
- C** discuss

12 In my ____, we should spend more time outdoors instead of watching TV.

- A** opinion
- B** argument
- C** reason

13 She made a strong ____ for reducing plastic waste in schools.

- A** case
- B** point
- C** topic

14 I take your ____, but I still think we need more time to decide.

- A** point
- B** side
- C** view

15 He tends to ____ to conclusions before hearing all the facts.

- A** jump
- B** come
- C** run

16 The speaker ____ several important points about climate change during the talk.

- A** raised
- B** made
- C** said

17 I can see both ____ of the argument, but I think the benefits are greater than the risks.

- A** sides
- B** parts
- C** ways

18 To ____ with, I think we need to look at the evidence before making any decisions.

- A** begin
- B** start
- C** go

19 My neighbour ____ that the new road would ruin the quiet character of our street.

- A** argued
- B** told
- C** expressed

20 I strongly ____ the idea of building a new shopping centre in the town centre.

- A** oppose
- B** deny
- C** refuse

Part 3: Fill in the Blank (Questions 21–30)

21 I strongly _____ with your point. I think the opposite is true.

22 In my _____, working from home is much more productive than going to an office.

23 She made a very good _____ about the importance of recycling during the class discussion.

24 Both sides of the argument have valid reasons, so it is difficult to reach a _____.

25 I can see your _____, but I still think we should try a different approach.

26 The new law is very _____ because some people support it and others strongly oppose it.

27 To _____ your argument, you should give clear examples and evidence.

28 After a long debate, everyone finally _____ that the project should be delayed.

29 He tends to _____ when he tells stories, making everything sound much bigger than it really is.

30 The teacher asked us to _____ our answers by explaining the reasons behind our choices.

Part 4: Matrix / Match Values (Questions 31–40)

31 Match each word on the left with its correct meaning on the right.

MATCHING OPTIONS:

- A** to put forward an idea for others to consider **B** to say that something is true without proving it
C to accept that something is true, often unwillingly **D** to give reasons to support or oppose an idea

Item / Phrase	Write Match Letter (A, B, C...)
argue	[]
suggest	[]
claim	[]
admit	[]

32 Match each opinion phrase on the left with the correct function on the right.

MATCHING OPTIONS:

- A** introducing a personal viewpoint **B** expressing a personal impression or feeling
C indicating limited or uncertain knowledge

Item / Phrase	Write Match Letter (A, B, C...)
In my opinion, ...	[]
As far as I know, ...	[]
It seems to me that ...	[]

33 Match each word on the left with its closest synonym on the right.

MATCHING OPTIONS:

- A** think about **B** suppose
C oppose **D** convince

Item / Phrase	Write Match Letter (A, B, C...)
persuade	[]
disagree	[]
consider	[]
assume	[]

34 Match each adjective on the left with its correct definition on the right.

MATCHING OPTIONS:

- | | |
|--|--|
| A not clear or precise | B unfairly favouring one side |
| C able to make people believe something is true | D based on clear and sensible reasoning |

Item / Phrase	Write Match Letter (A, B, C...)
convincing	[]
biased	[]
logical	[]
vague	[]

35 Match each collocation on the left with the correct word to complete it on the right.

MATCHING OPTIONS:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| A conclusion | B point |
| C agreement | D question |

Item / Phrase	Write Match Letter (A, B, C...)
make a valid ____	[]
come to a ____	[]
reach an ____	[]
raise a ____	[]

36 Match each sentence on the left with the correct function it performs on the right.

MATCHING OPTIONS:

- | | |
|--|--|
| A expressing full agreement | B expressing doubt or uncertainty |
| C partially agreeing before disagreeing | |

Item / Phrase	Write Match Letter (A, B, C...)
I completely agree with what you said.	[]
That's a good point, but I think ...	[]
I'm not sure about that.	[]

37 Match each word on the left with its correct antonym (opposite) on the right.

MATCHING OPTIONS:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| A reject | B disagree |
| C disprove | D oppose |

Item / Phrase	Write Match Letter (A, B, C...)
support	[]
agree	[]
prove	[]
accept	[]

38 Match each dependent preposition phrase on the left with the correct word to complete it on the right.

MATCHING OPTIONS:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| A in | B about |
| C with | |

Item / Phrase	Write Match Letter (A, B, C...)
agree ____ someone	[]
argue ____ something	[]
believe ____ something	[]

39 Match each word on the left with the phrase it best completes on the right.

MATCHING OPTIONS:

- | | |
|--|---|
| A In her ____, the project will succeed. | B Give me one good ____ to change my mind. |
| C There is no ____ to support that claim. | D The class had a ____ about social media. |

Item / Phrase	Write Match Letter (A, B, C...)
evidence	[]
opinion	[]
debate	[]
reason	[]

40 Match each phrase on the left with its correct meaning on the right.

MATCHING OPTIONS:

A summarising the main argument at the end

B giving an illustration to support a point

C presenting two contrasting points

D introducing a contrasting or opposing idea

Item / Phrase	Write Match Letter (A, B, C...)
on the one hand ... on the other hand ...	[]
for example, ...	[]
in conclusion, ...	[]
however, ...	[]

Part 5: Sort the Values (Questions 41–50)

41 Arrange the words to make a correct sentence.

argument. opinion, should listen sides both the In my we to of

42 Arrange the words to make a correct sentence.

disagrees strongly raising taxes. with idea She the of

43 Arrange the words to make a correct sentence.

agree point view. tend with your to of I

44 Arrange the words to make a correct sentence.

education. better valid point about made need the for He a

45 Arrange the words to make a correct sentence.

convincing. argument honest, quite find his To be I

46 Arrange the words to make a correct sentence.

compromise.

sides

Both

need

come

with

to

up

a

47 Arrange the words to make a correct sentence.

perspective.

considering

person's

worth

other

the

It

is

48 Arrange the words to make a correct sentence.

complicated

situation

evidence

suggests

thought.

that

more

than

The

the

is

we

49 Arrange the words to make a correct sentence.

isolating.

working

hand,

saves

time;

other

hand,

from

home

feel

the

one

the

can

On

on

it

50 Arrange the words to make a correct sentence.

concerned,

important

honesty

quality

person.

most

far

the

As

as

am

is

in

I

a

Answer Key & Explanations

Opinions, Ideas and Arguments | B1

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. **D** Correct Answer: belief ✓ Explanation: A belief is something you feel certain is true, often about values or principles. She had a strong belief that everyone deserved equal treatment. While opinion and view are similar, belief suggests a deeper conviction. Feeling is more emotional and less formal.
2. **A** Correct Answer: convince ✓ Explanation: To convince someone means to make them believe or agree with you. She convinced her friend to join the team. Discuss means to talk about something, explain means to make something clear, and argue means to disagree or give reasons, but none of these mean making someone change their mind.
3. **B** Correct Answer: view ✓ Explanation: The phrase in my view is a common expression used to introduce a personal opinion. In my view, the new law is a good idea. While in my opinion is also correct, view fits this fixed phrase naturally. Idea and thought do not collocate with in my ___ in this way.
4. **A** Correct Answer: strong ✓ Explanation: We use strong to describe an argument that is powerful and difficult to disagree with. She made a strong argument for changing the law. Heavy, hard, and loud are not used as collocations with argument in this meaning.
5. **C** Correct Answer: reached ✓ Explanation: The correct collocation is reach an agreement, which means to successfully come to a decision together. After two hours, they finally reached an agreement. While came, arrived, and got can be used with other nouns, they do not collocate correctly with agreement.
6. **B** Correct Answer: agree ✓ Explanation: To agree with someone means to have the same opinion as them. I agree with you that we need more time. Support means to help or back someone up, approve usually requires the preposition of, and accept means to receive or take something — none fit this context as naturally.
7. **A** Correct Answer: point ✓ Explanation: To raise a point means to introduce a specific idea or argument during a discussion. She raised a good point about the cost of the project. Idea is more general, comment is an informal remark, and fact refers to something proven true — only point fits this collocation.
8. **C** Correct Answer: position ✓ Explanation: Your position on a topic is your official or clear opinion about it. What is your position on this issue? Standpoint is similar but less common at B1 level, statement is something you say or write formally, and conclusion is the end result of thinking — not what is asked here.

9. **B** Correct Answer: come ✓ Explanation: The phrasal verb come up with means to think of or produce an idea, plan, or reason. Can you come up with a solution to this problem? Think up is also possible, but in this sentence the gap requires come because up with follows. Bring and make do not form this phrasal verb.
10. **B** Correct Answer: reach ✓ Explanation: The correct collocation is reach a conclusion, which means to arrive at a final decision or judgment after thinking carefully. After much discussion, we reached the conclusion that more research was needed. Make collocates with a decision, not a conclusion. Do and take are not used here.

Part 2: Fill in the Gap

11. **A** Correct Answer: agree ✓ Explanation: To agree means to share the same opinion as someone else. I agree with you — the plan sounds great. Argue means to disagree, and discuss means to talk about something, not necessarily to share an opinion.
12. **A** Correct Answer: opinion ✓ Explanation: In my opinion is a fixed phrase used to introduce a personal view. In my opinion, exercise is very important. Argument refers to a dispute or a point in a debate, and reason explains why something happens.
13. **A** Correct Answer: case ✓ Explanation: To make a case for something means to give convincing reasons to support an idea. He made a strong case for changing the school rules. Point refers to a single idea, and topic is the general subject being discussed.
14. **A** Correct Answer: point ✓ Explanation: I take your point is a common phrase meaning you understand and partly accept what someone said, even if you are not fully convinced. I take your point, but we should think about the cost too. Side refers to a position in a debate, and view is an opinion.
15. **A** Correct Answer: jump ✓ Explanation: To jump to conclusions means to decide something too quickly without enough information. Don't jump to conclusions — we don't know the full story yet. Come to conclusions is not a natural collocation in this context, and run to conclusions is not used in English.
16. **A** Correct Answer: raised ✓ Explanation: To raise a point means to introduce or mention a topic or issue for discussion. She raised some important points about pollution. Although made can be used with a point, in this context with several points about a topic, raised is the more natural and specific collocation.
17. **A** Correct Answer: sides ✓ Explanation: Both sides of an argument is a fixed collocation meaning the two different positions people can take on an issue. A good debater can see both sides of the argument. Parts and ways do not collocate naturally with argument in this meaning.
18. **A** Correct Answer: begin ✓ Explanation: To begin with is a fixed phrase used to introduce the first point in a discussion or argument. To begin with, let's look at the facts. While to start with is also possible, in the context of formal or structured argument, to begin with is the most standard choice here.

19. **A** Correct Answer: argued ✓ Explanation: To argue (in this context) means to give reasons for a position or belief, not to fight. She argued that the plan was too expensive. Told means to give information directly, and expressed usually collocates with feelings or emotions, not with structured opinions.

20. **A** Correct Answer: oppose ✓ Explanation: To oppose something means to be against an idea or plan and want to stop it. Many residents oppose the construction of the new road. Deny means to say something is not true, and refuse means to say no to doing something, so neither fits the context of arguing against an idea.

Part 3: Fill in the Blank

21. **disagree** Correct Answer: disagree ✓ Explanation: To disagree means to have a different opinion from someone else. The context clue "I think the opposite is true" tells us the speaker does not agree. Compare with agree, which means to share the same opinion.

22. **opinion** Correct Answer: opinion ✓ Explanation: In my opinion is a very common phrase used to introduce a personal view or belief. "In my opinion, the film was too long." It is different from a fact, which is something that is always true.

23. **point** Correct Answer: point ✓ Explanation: When someone makes a point, they express a specific idea or argument in a discussion. "That's a good point — I hadn't thought of that." It is not the same as opinion, which is a general personal view.

24. **conclusion** Correct Answer: conclusion ✓ Explanation: A conclusion is a final decision or judgement made after thinking about something carefully. "After a long meeting, they came to a conclusion." It is different from an introduction, which comes at the beginning.

25. **point|point of view** Correct Answer: point / point of view ✓ Explanation: I can see your point means you understand someone's argument even if you do not fully agree. "I can see your point, but there are other options." This is a polite way to keep a discussion respectful.

26. **controversial** Correct Answer: controversial ✓ Explanation: Something controversial causes a lot of disagreement and debate among people. "The politician's speech was very controversial." Compare with popular, which means something most people like or agree with.

27. **support** Correct Answer: support ✓ Explanation: To support an argument means to provide reasons or evidence that make it stronger. "She used statistics to support her idea." The opposite is to challenge or weaken an argument.

28. **agreed** Correct Answer: agreed ✓ Explanation: To agree means that all people in a discussion share the same opinion or decision. "We all agreed to meet on Friday." The opposite is disagreed, which means they had different opinions.

29. **exaggerate** Correct Answer: exaggerate ✓ Explanation: To exaggerate means to describe something as bigger, better, or worse than it really is. "Don't exaggerate — it wasn't that bad!" It is different from lie, which means saying something completely untrue.

30. **justify** Correct Answer: justify ✓ Explanation: To justify means to give reasons or evidence to show that something is correct or reasonable. "Can you justify your decision to change the plan?" It is different from explain, which just means to make something clear without defending it.

Part 4: Matrix / Match Values

31. **argue: D • suggest: A • claim: B • admit: C** Correct Matches: • argue → to give reasons to support or oppose an idea • suggest → to put forward an idea for others to consider • claim → to say that something is true without proving it • admit → to accept that something is true, often unwillingly ✓ Explanation: These verbs are all used for expressing opinions and ideas. Argue involves reasoning, as in 'She argued that the plan was too expensive.' Suggest is more gentle, as in 'He suggested a different approach.' Claim implies no proof, as in 'They claim the product is the best.' Admit often involves reluctance, as in 'He admitted he was wrong.'
32. **In my opinion, ...: A • As far as I know, ...: C • It seems to me that ...: B** Correct Matches: • In my opinion, ... → introducing a personal viewpoint • As far as I know, ... → indicating limited or uncertain knowledge • It seems to me that ... → expressing a personal impression or feeling ✓ Explanation: In my opinion is a direct way to share your view, as in 'In my opinion, we should act now.' As far as I know shows you are not completely certain, as in 'As far as I know, the meeting is on Friday.' It seems to me softens the opinion and makes it sound like a personal impression, as in 'It seems to me that he is not telling the truth.'
33. **persuade: D • disagree: C • consider: A • assume: B** Correct Matches: • persuade → convince • disagree → oppose • consider → think about • assume → suppose ✓ Explanation: Persuade and convince both mean to make someone believe something or do something. Disagree and oppose both mean to be against an idea. Consider and think about mean to reflect on something carefully. Assume and suppose both mean to believe something is true without evidence, as in 'I assumed he already knew.'

34. convincing: C • biased: B • logical: D • vague: A

Correct Matches: • convincing → able to make people believe something is true • biased → unfairly favouring one side • logical → based on clear and sensible reasoning • vague → not clear or precise  Explanation: A convincing argument makes people agree with you. A biased opinion is not fair or balanced, as in 'The report was biased towards one group.' A logical argument follows clear reasoning. A vague answer does not give enough detail, as in 'Her explanation was too vague to understand.'

35. make a valid ____: B • come to a ____: A • reach an ____: C • raise a ____: D

Correct Matches: • make a valid ____ → point • come to a ____ → conclusion • reach an ____ → agreement • raise a ____ → question  Explanation: These are common collocations used in discussions and arguments. You make a point when you express an important idea. You come to a conclusion after considering the facts. You reach an agreement when two sides accept the same decision. You raise a question when you bring up something that needs an answer, as in 'She raised an important question about the cost.'

36. I completely agree with what you said.: A • That's a good point, but I think ...: C • I'm not sure about that.: B

Correct
Matches: • I completely agree with what you said. → expressing full agreement
• That's a good point, but I think ... → partially agreeing before disagreeing • I'm not sure about that. → expressing doubt or uncertainty ✓
Explanation: In discussions, we use different phrases to manage agreement and disagreement. I completely agree shows full support. That's a good point, but ... is a polite way to introduce a different opinion after acknowledging the other person. I'm not sure about that is a softer way to express disagreement or uncertainty without being rude.

37. support: D • agree: B • prove: C • accept: A Correct Matches: • support → oppose • agree → disagree • prove → disprove • accept → reject ✓ Explanation: These pairs are opposites commonly used in arguments and debates. To support an idea means to be in favour of it, while to oppose means to be against it. To prove means to show something is true, while to disprove means to show it is false. To accept an idea means to agree with it, while to reject means to refuse it, as in 'The committee rejected the proposal.'

38. agree ____ someone: C • argue ____ something: B • believe ____ something: A Correct Matches: • agree ____ someone → with • argue ____ something → about • believe ____ something → in ✓ Explanation: These are common dependent prepositions with opinion verbs. We say agree with a person or idea, as in 'I agree with your decision.' We say argue about a topic, as in 'They argued about the best solution.' We say believe in something to show we think it is right or real, as in 'She believes in equal rights.' Using the wrong preposition is a very common mistake at B1 level.

39. evidence: C • opinion: A • debate: D • reason: B Correct Matches: • evidence → There is no ____ to support that claim. • opinion → In her ____, the project will succeed. • debate → The class had a ____ about social media. • reason → Give me one good ____ to change my mind. ✓ Explanation: Evidence refers to facts or information used to prove something. Opinion is a personal view or belief. A debate is a structured discussion where people argue different sides. A reason is an explanation or justification for something. These words are all key vocabulary for expressing and developing arguments.

40. on the one hand ... on the other hand ...: C • for example, ...: B • in conclusion, ...: A • however, ...: D

Correct Matches: •
on the one hand ... on the other hand ... → presenting two contrasting points • for example, ... → giving an illustration to support a point • in conclusion, ... → summarising the main argument at the end • however, ... → introducing a contrasting or opposing idea ✓

Explanation:
These are discourse markers used to organise opinions and arguments. On the one hand ... on the other hand helps balance two different ideas. For example introduces a specific case to support

your point, as in 'For example, many students prefer online learning.' In conclusion signals the end of an argument. However shows contrast, as in 'The idea is good. However, it may be too expensive.'

Part 5: Sort the Values

- 41.** Correct Answer: In my opinion, we should listen to both sides of the argument. ✓ Explanation: The phrase In my opinion is a common opinion marker that comes at the beginning of a sentence, followed by a comma. Then comes the subject we, the modal verb should, and the main verb listen. Note the dependent preposition listen to, which always requires to after it.
- 42.** Correct Answer: She strongly disagrees with the idea of raising taxes. ✓ Explanation: The adverb strongly comes directly before the main verb disagrees to modify it. The verb disagree uses the dependent preposition disagree with. The phrase the idea of is followed by a gerund (raising), not an infinitive.
- 43.** Correct Answer: I tend to agree with your point of view. ✓ Explanation: The expression tend to is followed by a base form infinitive, so agree (not agreeing) is correct. The fixed phrase point of view means someone's personal opinion or perspective. The preposition agree with is used when agreeing with a person or idea.
- 44.** Correct Answer: He made a valid point about the need for better education. ✓ Explanation: The collocation make a point means to express an argument or idea clearly. The adjective valid describes a point that is logical and well-reasoned. The preposition about introduces the topic of the point, and the need for is a common fixed expression at B1 level.
- 45.** Correct Answer: To be honest, I find his argument quite convincing. ✓ Explanation: To be honest is a common introductory phrase used to signal a sincere or frank opinion, placed at the start of a sentence and followed by a comma. The structure find + object + adjective (e.g., find his argument convincing) is a natural B1 pattern for expressing opinions about something.

- 46.** Correct Answer: Both sides need to come up with a compromise. ✅ Explanation: Both sides acts as the plural subject of the sentence. The phrasal verb come up with means to think of or produce an idea or solution, and it always needs an object after with. Need to is followed by a base form infinitive, so come is correct here.
- 47.** Correct Answer: It is worth considering the other person's perspective. ✅ Explanation: The expression it is worth is always followed by a gerund (-ing form), not an infinitive. So considering (not to consider) is correct. The word perspective is a useful B1 synonym for point of view or opinion, meaning the way someone sees a situation.
- 48.** Correct Answer: The evidence suggests that the situation is more complicated than we thought. ✅ Explanation: The verb suggests is commonly used in arguments and discussions to introduce a conclusion or idea supported by facts. It is followed by a that-clause. The comparative structure more complicated than is used to compare two situations, which is a key B1 grammar pattern.
- 49.** Correct Answer: On the one hand, working from home saves time; on the other hand, it can feel isolating. ✅ Explanation: The paired expressions on the one hand and on the other hand are used to present two contrasting sides of an argument. They are always used together and separated by a semicolon or a new sentence. This is a very useful B1 structure for balanced discussions and essays.
- 50.** Correct Answer: As far as I am concerned, honesty is the most important quality in a person. ✅ Explanation: As far as I am concerned is a fixed phrase used to introduce a personal opinion, similar to In my opinion or From my point of view. It is placed at the beginning of the sentence and followed by a comma. The superlative the most important is used to say something ranks highest compared to all others.

Score Guide

45–50 Correct	Excellent! You have mastered this topic.
38–44 Correct	Very good! Review the rules you missed.
30–37 Correct	Good start. Re-read the lesson and examples.
0–29 Correct	Study the lesson again before retaking the test.