**Sentence Frames for Academic Speaking**

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| **Clarifying**   * I have a question about… * Is it your position that… * To be clear, you’re saying that… * I’m confused when you say X; can you elaborate? * So you think/feel/believe that… * How is that different from… | **Building On**   * Y mentioned that… * Yes, and furthermore… * The author’s claim that Z is interesting because… * Adding to what X said,… * I would like to add to what Y said… |
| **Paraphrasing**   * If I understand you correctly, you think… * In other words, you think… * So you’re saying that… * Is it fair to say that you believe… * I hear you saying that… | **Summarizing**   * Overall, what I’m trying to say is… * My whole point in one sentence is… * More than anything else, I believe that… |
| **Agreeing**   * I agree with Y because… * Z’s point about X was important because… * The evidence for Z is overwhelming when you consider that… * X and I are coming from the same position. * Despite disagreeing about Y, I agree with Z that… | **Politely Disagreeing**   * I see it differently because… * The evidence I’ve seen suggests something different. * I don’t quite agree with your point about… * I agree that X, but we also have to consider that… * Have you thought about…? |
| **Expressing an Opinion**   * **I think…** * **I believe…** * **I predict…** * **I imagine…** * **In my opinion…** * **It seems to me that…** * **Not everyone will agree with me, but…** | **Offering a Suggestion**   * **What if you/we…?** * **What would happen if you/we…?** * **Maybe you/we could…?** * **Here’s something that we/you might try…** |