

Personal Point of View

We use these words and phrases to express a personal point of view:

- In my experience...
- As far as I'm concerned...
- Speaking for myself...
- In my opinion...
- Personally, I think...
- I'd say that...
- I'd suggest that...
- I'd like to point out that...
- I believe that...
- What I mean is...

General Point of View

We use these words and phrases to express a point of view that is generally thought by people:

- It is thought that...
- Some people say that...
- It is considered...
- It is generally accepted that...

Agreeing with an opinion

We use these words and phrases to agree with someone else's point of view:

- Of course.
- You're absolutely right.
- Yes, I agree.
- I think so too.
- That's a good point.
- Exactly.
- I don't think so either.
- So do I.
- I'd go along with that.
- That's true.
- Neither do I.
- I agree with you entirely.
- That's just what I was thinking.
- I couldn't agree more.

Disagreeing with an opinion

We use these words and phrases to disagree with someone else's point of view:

- That's different.
- I don't agree with you.
- However...
- That's not entirely true.
- On the contrary...
- I'm sorry to disagree with you, but...
- Yes, but don't you think...
- That's not the same thing at all.
- I'm afraid I have to disagree.
- I'm not so sure about that.
- I must take issue with you on that.
- It's unjustifiable to say that...

List taken from: <http://www.vocabulary.com/lists/opinions.htm>



Formal / Written

in my view / in my opinion

- **In my view**, birds should not be kept in cages.
- How important is it, **in your view**, that the twins should stay together?
- **In my opinion**, it's very important.

from my point of view

- **From my point of view** it makes no difference whether you return on Saturday night or Sunday morning.
- **From a political point of view**, the agreement of the UN is extremely important.
- **From the point of view of safety**, always wear a helmet when you are on the building site.

Useful alternatives to **in my view** include:

- **I think that...**
- **It seems to me that...**
- **I would argue that...**
- **I do not believe that...**
- **I am unconvinced that...**
- **I do not agree that...**

How acceptable is it for wild animals to be kept in zoos?

I believe that it is quite unacceptable for animals to be kept in zoos. **It seems to me that** when they are confined to a cage they never have enough room to move around. **I would argue that** it is kinder to allow a rare animal to die naturally in the wilds rather than to prolong its life artificially in a zoo.

making concessions

To achieve balance, it may be useful to incorporate opinions that are different from your own. Useful linking words and expressions include:

- **Of course, many / some people argue...**
- **It is sometimes argued...**
- **Admittedly...**
- **While...**

It is sometimes argued that it is possible for conditions in the zoo to replicate the wild animal's natural habitat. **While this** may be feasible for smaller reptiles, it will never be possible, **in my view**, for the larger mammals which needs acres of space to roam around in.

clarifying an opinion

It may sometimes be necessary to explain a thought in greater detail. Useful linking expressions for doing this include:

- **By this I mean...**
- **Here I'm referring to...**
- **To be more precise...**
- **That is to say...**

By spending money on confining wild animals to zoos, we are wasting resources. **By this I mean** there are more urgent economic problems to deal with: hospitals and schools should be our first priority.

Informal / Casual

to my mind: to emphasize that this is your opinion

- **To my mind** the quality of their football is just not good enough.

reckon: usually to express an opinion about what is likely to happen

- **I reckon** it'll rain later today. Let's go tomorrow.

feel: to express a strong personal opinion

- **I feel** she shouldn't be getting married so young.

if you ask me: to express an opinion that may be critical

- **If you ask me**, it's unreasonable to pay for something which should be free.

to be honest (with you): to express a critical opinion without seeming rude

- **To be honest (with you)**, I'm surprised you got into university with such low grades.

as far as I'm concerned: to express an opinion that may be different from others'

- **As far as I'm concerned**, the matter is over and done with and we can now move forward.

List taken from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/grammar/learnit/learnitv281.shtml>