

FORMULA PHRASES

Particularly in rapid conversation, speakers of any language rely very much on set phrases for such purposes as getting attention, introducing a new thought or reasserting an old one, linking or "piggy-backing" their ideas, agreeing or disagreeing with what has been said, etc. A handy, ready supply of these formula phrases will prove invaluable in Esperanto "bull sessions." The following are adapted, with thanks, from a list published by the American Association of Teachers of Esperanto.

OPENERS (Getting the floor):

Momenton! Just a minute, hold on there!
Sajnas al mi, ke... It seems to me that...
Mi opinias, ke... I think that...
Miaopinie,... In my opinion...
Laŭ mi... As far as I'm concerned...
Nu, se vi volas mian konsilon... Well if you want my advice...

ADDING ON (to what has been said):

Mi volus aldoni, ke... I'd like to add that...
Necesas ankaŭ diri, ke... It must also be said that...
Finfine,... When all's said and done,...
Kiel oni scias,... As you know,...
Evidente,... It's obvious that...
Male,... Quite the contrary,...
Sed tamen,... However,...
Aliflanke,... On the other hand,...
Kontraŭe,... On the contrary,...
Sekve, do... It follows, then, that...
Nome,... To be precise,...

Efektive,... As a matter of fact,...
Tio estas,... That is,...
Cetere,... Aside from that,...
Krome,... Besides,...
Kio plu estas,... What's more,...
Fakte,... In fact,...
Ekzemple,... For example,...
Malkaŝe, mi kredas, ke... Frankly, I think...
La afero estas, ke... The thing is that...
Plejparte,... For the most part,...
Fundamente,... Basically,...

KEEPING ON (Repeating yourself):

Kiel mi ĵus diris,... As I just said,...
Mi jam rimarkigis, ke... I've already pointed out that...
Mi volas diri,... I mean,...
Indas ripeti, ke... It bears repeating that...
Alivorte,... In other words,...
Mi ankoraŭ kredas, ke... I still think...
Mi nur ripetu, ke... Let me just say again that...

QUESTIONING:

Kion? Kion vi diris? What? What did you say?
Ĉu vi estas certa, ke... Are you sure that...
Kion vi opinias pri... What do you think about...
Pri kio temas? What's this about? What's the point?
Kion vi volas diri? What do you mean?
Kion signifas...? What does...mean?
Ĉu vi ne kredas, ke... Don't you think that...
Ĉu vi iam konsideris... Have you ever considered...
Ĉu vi neniam pripensis... Haven't you ever thought about...
De kie vi havas tiun ideon? Where did you get that idea?

LINKING (to another's statement):

Se mi ĝuste komprenas,... If I understand correctly,...

En tiu rilato, mi supozus... In that connection I would suppose...

En tiu senco oni povus diri... In that sense you could say...

Tio pruvas, ke... That proves (that)...

Simile,... Similarly, by the same token,...

La demando estas... The question is...

Laŭ tiu vidpunkto... According to that point of view...

Parolante pri... Speaking of...

En tiu kazo,... In that case...

En ĉiu kazo... In any case...

DISBELIEF:

Kio(n)?! What?!

Ĉu vere? Really?

Vi ŝercas! You're joking!

Kia blago! You're pulling my leg! You've got to be kidding!

Ridinde! Ridiculous!

Mi dubas pri tio. I doubt that.

AGREEMENT:

Vi (tute) pravas. You're (entirely) right.

Mi konsentas. I agree.

Certe. Certainly.

Ĝuste! Exactly! Right on!

Prave! Right!

Bone. Fine, OK, all right.

Vere. Really.

Kompreneble. Of course.

Konsentite. Agreed.

Mi opinias same. I'm of the same opinion.

Tre povas esti, ke... It's very possible that...

Verŝajne jes. Probably so.

Jes, ja! Yes, indeed!

Tio estas ĝuste kion mi... That's exactly what I...

DISAGREEMENT:

Absolute ne! Absolutely not!

Tute ne! Not at all!

Tio estas idiota (ridinda, sensenca, stulta). That's stupid (ridiculous, nonsense, foolish).

Ne temas pri tio. That's not the point.

Temas pri tio, ke... The point is that...

Ne estas vere, ke... It's not true that...

Eble, sed... Maybe so, but...

La malfacilaĵo estas, ke... The trouble is that...

Vi eraras. You're wrong.

Tio dependas. That depends.

Dependas de tio, ĉu... It depends on whether...

Tio dependas de via vidpunkto. That depends on your viewpoint.

Ne parolu al mi pri... Don't talk to me about...

Ne troigu. Don't exaggerate.

Ne ridigu min. Don't make me laugh.

Kia sensencaĵo! What a bunch of baloney!

Ne eble! Impossible!

Ĉu vi perdis la saĝon? Have you lost your mind?

CHANGING THE SUBJECT:

Parenteze,... By the way,...

Tio memorigas min pri tio, ke... That reminds me that..