

LANGUAGE FUNCTIONS (C1)

DEVELOPING AND JUSTIFYING AN ARGUMENT

- The way I see it...
- As I see it,
- I have the impression that...
- Personally,
- To my mind,
- I don't know about you, but I ...
- Speaking from personal experience,
- For me personally,

SUMMARISING

- In a nutshell,
- To make a long story short,
- The bottom line is ...
- On balance, we can conclude that...

REPHRASING

- In other words,
- ..., that is to say, ...
- OK, so you mean (to say) that...
- OK, so what you mean is ...

EVALUATING DIFFERENT STANDPOINTS

- That's a very good point
- That's a valid point
- I agree entirely
- That's an interesting point, but / however...
- You may / might be right

EVALUATING OPTIONS / PAST ACTIONS / COURSE OF EVENTS

Past modals of deduction:
He must have (thought)
He can't have (seen)

DEDUCING AND INFERRING

I imagine / I guess / I take it...
From what you're saying, it seems to me (that)...
From what you're saying, then, I take it.../ I guess
I dare say that...

STAGING

Firstly, / In the first place / To start with
Secondly, / In the second place
What's more / On top of that / Furthermore /
Finally / Last but not least

HYPOTHESISING

- Could it be that ...
- It might be that case that...
- I wonder if ...

INDICATING UNDERSTANDING OF POINTS MADE BY THE EXAMINER

- Yes, absolutely
- Exactly
- Hmm, I see what you mean
- I can see what you're getting at
- I see your point
- I couldn't agree more
- You have a point there.

ESTABLISHING COMMON GROUND / PURPOSE OR STRATEGY

- Would you agree that...
- Reaching a conclusion: So, to sum up,

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY AND EMPATHY

I'm sorry to hear about...
That must be awful.
That's so sad.
I do sympathise with you.
I hope things get better soon.
I hope you feel better soon.
Oh dear!
Too bad!
That's a pity!
That's unfortunate.
I know how you must be feeling.
I know what you mean.

EXPRESSING RESERVATIONS

I have my doubts about that.
Do you think so? I doubt it.
You may have a point there, but I'm still not sure

EXPRESSING CAUTION

I can't say if
I would be careful, if I were you
Just be careful with that
If I were you I would

CHALLENGING ARGUMENTS AND OPINIONS

I (can) see your point, but
Yes, but wouldn't you say that...
Yes, but don't you feel that ...
Well...maybe...possibly...
I think that's debatable.
I agree to some extent but
I'm not so sure about that

MAKING SUGGESTIONS

Why don't you...?
If I were you...

I wonder if it might be better ...

FILLERS

- So,
- You see, ...
- ..., you see, ...
- You know,
- I mean,

RECOVERING YOUR THOUGHTS

Where was I?
What was I saying?