

❖ Lesson 4

Giving Your Opinions

「意見を言う」

Challenge!

Work with the whole class.

Give your opinions on the following topic.

Agree or disagree with your classmates.

Topic:

- Which *izakaya* is the best in Tokyo?

Giving Your Opinions 「意見を言う」

“Speaking English equals stating your opinions.”

This is a good phrase to remember when speaking English.

People often ask others their thoughts using the question

“what do you think?”

Unlike in Japanese, saying your opinions clearly is very important in English. Be prepared.

「英語を話す = 自分の意見や考えを明らかにする」と言っても過言ではありません。

英語を話す環境に入ると頻繁に “What do you think?” という質問を受けます。

「あなたはどう思いますか」と聞かれたら、「私はこう思います」と相手に明快に伝えましょう。

何事にも自分の考えを持ち、それを英語で伝える訓練が日本人には必要です。

■ Giving Your Opinions 意見を言う

1. **I think** the Giants **will** win this year. (すると思う)
2. **I think we should** eat more vegetables every day. (すべきだ)
3. **I don't think** sugar is good for your health. (だとは思わない)

■ Agreeing 同意する

4. **I agree with you. / You're right. / That's true.**

■ Disagreeing 反対する

5. **I'm not sure. / I'm sorry, but I don't think so. /
I'm sorry, but I don't agree with that.**

Practice the dialogs with your partner.

■ Dialog 1:

A: **I think** the Giants will win this year.

B: { **I agree.** They have a great lineup.
I don't think so. The pitchers are not good enough.

Practice the dialogs with your partner.

■ Dialog 2:

A: **I think we should** eat more vegetables.

B: { **You're right.** We eat too much fat.
You're right, but protein is more
important.

Practice the dialogs with your partner.

■ Dialog 3:

A: **I don't think** sugar is good for your health.

B: **I'm sorry, but I don't agree with that,** because your brain needs it.

★ Pair Work or Class Work

- *Take turns and give your opinions about the following topics.*
- *Give your reasons for agreeing / disagreeing.*

Topics:

1. Another pro-baseball team
2. Fast food
3. An izakaya restaurant near your office
4. Best musician in Japan

■ Giving your opinions:

- I think ...
- I think we should ...
- I don't think ...

■ Agreeing:

- I agree with you. / You're right.
/ That's true.

■ Disagreeing:

- I'm not sure.
- I'm sorry, but I don't think so.
- I'm sorry, but I don't agree with that.

Words & Phrases

- *Go through the words and phrases with your instructor.*
- *Pay attention to pronunciation and intonation.*

■ Opinions in the Office

- come in ten minutes earlier
- work overtime a lot
- keep our desks clean
- stop netsurfing at work
- have a one-hour lunch break instead of 45 minutes

■ Opinions at Home

- have children go to bed before 9
- walk the dog
- leave the TV on during dinner
- clean the house every day
- communicate more often with each other

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■ Opinions to Your Friends

- quit smoking
- go home earlier
- stop drinking so much
- spend a lot of money
- take the family to a hot spring
- buy things with a credit card

■ Opinions about News

- raise the sales tax
- be a governor / the president
- be successful in the Major Leagues
- be guilty of the murder

★ Practice

- *Work with your partner. Use the following patterns to practice talking about the topics in the blue box.*

1. A: I think we should _____.
B: You're right / I don't think so, because _____.
2. A: I don't think we should _____.
B: I agree / I don't agree with that, because _____.
3. A: Do you think we (I) should ____?
B: Yes / No, because _____.

■ Opinions in the Office:

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3. **A: Do you think we (I) should ____?**
B: Yes / No, because _____.

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★ Class Work

- *Work with the whole class. Discuss one of the following topics. Give your opinions. Agree or disagree with your classmates.*
 1. Which pro-baseball team will win this year?
 2. Which family restaurant is the best?
 3. Which is the best city to live in?
 4. Who is the greatest Japanese person in history?
 5. How can you be healthier?
 6. How can you make your office better?
 7. How can you improve your products?



When You Don't Understand わからない時の聞き方

When you don't understand something, please ask. Do not worry about interrupting the speaker, because it's more important for the speaker to know if you don't understand what he/she is saying than being interrupted. The speaker expects questions from you since he/she knows you are not a native English speaker.

相手が何を言っているかわからない時は、そのままにせず、必ず確認しましょう。
会話の流れを止めることになっても構いません。相手にとってはあなたが内容を理解していないことのほうが問題です。あなたは英語を母国語としないのですから、わからないことがあって当然です。



When You Don't Understand わからない時の聞き方

- A: **What does “regulation” mean?** ~とはどういう意味ですか
B: { **It means “rule.”**
 It is the same as “rule.”
- A: **Could you repeat what you said?** もう一度言っていたいただけますか。
B: **I said** we should ...
- A: **Could you speak more slowly?** もう少しゆっくりお話いただけますか。
B: **I'm sorry.** I ...