The English language opinions language practice
opinions/ learner training/ cultural training/ British and American English
Cutting Edge Advanced Module 1

Choose one of the opinions below for your partner to add an opinion phrase from the box to, read out, and then justify. Ask for more support for their opinion, guess if that is their real opinion or not, discuss for longer if you like, then take turns doing the same.

Opinions to justify

1. There should be more non-native speaker recordings in English language textbooks
2. Children should start English earlier in schools
3. Too many English words are used in my language and they should be replaced with native ones
4. English comes from England, so that should be the worldwide standard
5. There is no such thing as British English. People speak differently in every place.
6. There are too many Australian accents in textbooks and IELTS. Who cares how Australians speak??
7. There are far more speakers of English in India than in the UK or USA, so we should study Indian English as well/ instead

Useful language for giving opinions

- Frankly,...
- In my (honest/ humble) opinion,…
- If you ask me,…
- Generally speaking,…
- As far as I know,…
- The way I see it is…
- As far as I'm concerned,…
- If you want my opinion,…
- I (personally/ strongly) believe that…
- I (really) think that…
- Not everyone will agree with me, but…
- (This might be a bit controversial but) I would say (that)…
- Without a doubt…
- I'm (absolutely) convinced that…
- I'm absolutely certain that…
- I'm positive that…
- With some reservations, I'd probably say that…

When your teacher stops you, ask about anything above you are not sure about, working together as a class to use the opinions language to talk about the topics each time. Then discuss:

- How different are American, British, Australian and Indian English?
- What are the major differences?

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