Adjustment Level: Lower Intermediate-Advance

Target Skill to be improved: Speaking and Reasoning

Title: Debate is Fun (Free conversation)

Topic for Debate: Fuel-run cars should be banned in 2016

Introduction: This lesson gives the student more speaking opportunities in expressing his thoughts that would improve his/her speaking and reasoning skills. The student would also learn various expressions for agreeing and disagreeing.



Resolved: That fuel-run cars should be banned in 2016.



IDEA GENERATOR

Pros

- Fuel-run cars should be banned on the streets in 2016 because they contribute to the depletion of the ozone layer.
- Since battery-run cars are becoming more popular, fuel-run cars are expected to be replaced by 2016.

Cons

- Nothing can be compared to the performance of fuel-run cars.
- It's hard to let people change cars that they were used to.

See for example:

Person A: "In my opinion, I believe that fuel-run cars should be banned on the streets in 2016 because they contribute to the depletion of the ozone layer. Since battery-run cars are becoming more popular, fuel-run cars are expected to be replaced by 2016."

Person B: "I strongly disagree with the proposition since I believe that nothing can be compared to the performance of fuel-run cars.

Expressions for Agreeing and Disagreeing

Stating an opinion	 In my opinion The way I see it If you want my honest opinion According to Lisa As far as I'm concerned If you ask me
Asking for an opinon	 What's your idea? What are your thoughts on all of this? How do you feel about that? Do you have anything to say about this? What do you think? Do you agree? Wouldn't you say?
Expressing agreement	 I agree with you 100 percent. I couldn't agree with you more. That's so true. That's for sure. (slang) Tell me about it! You're absolutely right. Absolutely. That's exactly how I feel. Exactly. I'm afraid I agree with James. I have to side with Dad on this one. No doubt about it. (agree with negative statement) Me neither. (weak) I suppose so./I guess so. You have a point there. I was just going to say that.
Expressing disagreement	 I don't think so. (strong) No way. I'm afraid I disagree. (strong) I totally disagree. I beg to differ. (strong) I'd say the exact opposite. Not necessarily. That's not always true. That's not always the case. No, I'm not so sure about that.
Interruptions	Can I add something here?

	 Is it okay if I jump in for a second? If I might add something Can I throw my two cents in? Sorry to interrupt, but (after accidentally interrupting someone) Sorry, go ahead. OR Sorry, you were saying (after being interrupted) You didn't let me finish.
Settling an argument	 Let's just move on, shall we? Let's drop it. I think we're going to have to agree to disagree. (sarcastic) Whatever you say/If you say so.