**Discussing points of view.**

1) **Choose words from list below to fit into each sentence. Only one final solution should be attempted. Note: these sentences are useful for email or oral debate.**

- honestly / case / is / outs / What / easy / coming / overlooked / point / outright / point / reservations / further / bothers / so

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a) Yes, but don't forget that may not always be the ( 1.                   ).
b) Even so, I think we should look into it further before ( 2.                   ) to a decision.
c) That may be so, but you're not seeing the other ( 3.                   ) of view.
d) What you say is true, though only up to a ( 4.                   ).
e) I don't really see how that can be ( 5.                   ).
f) Yes, but the problem ( 6.                   ) the cost.
g) If it wasn't for the fact that there were so many complications, I'd agree with you ( 7.                   ).
h) What ( 8.                   ) me is how to find the money in the first place.
i) It's all very well for her to talk, but she doesn't know the ins and ( 9.                   ) of the situation.
j) It's ( 10.                   ) to say there's no crisis but the reality is quite different.
k) Quite ( 11.                   ), I doubt this plan could ever work.
l) Most of it is fine. I just have my ( 12.                   ) about some of the finer details, namely,
m) You're possibly right, but don't you think that we should investigate ( 13.                   )?
n) ( 14.                   ) concerns me is that there won't be enough to go around.
o) Everything appears to be satisfactory, except for a couple of points that have been ( 15.                   ).

2) **Analysis. General questions and activities for discussion and practice.**

a) Synonyms: find expressions in the text that mean: "even so" see (b); to a certain limit; completely; "bothers" see (h); all the complications; specifically; forgotten about.

b) You are going to have a discussion or hold a meeting. Ask your teacher.
**Teacher’s notes.**
*(Time for activity: 40 mins approx. Level: upper intermediate.)*

**Discussing points of view. (Context: email or debate.)*

**Correct answers to question 1.**
1. case  
2. coming  
3. point  
4. point  
5. so  
6. is  
7. outright  
8. bothers  
9. outs  
10. easy  
11. honestly  
12. reservations  
13. further  
14. What  
15. overlooked

**Answers to question 2.**

a) Synonyms: That may be so (c); up to a point (d); outright (g); concerns (n) [but latter more formal]; ins and outs (i) or, finer details (l); namely (l); overlooked (o).

You may also want to explain the colloquial expression: "It's all very well for her to talk" (i). This is used when we think somebody has no right to comment on a subject (because they don't know the facts or they have other interests at heart). Clear up any further problems of comprehension students might have with other sentences before continuing.

All these expressions are fine for neutral-style email correspondence or debate / meetings. Some sentences being a little more formal than others.

b) Choose a subject your students can relate to (preferably connected with their work). The subject or proposal should involve obvious complications and potential conflicting points of view. Although the agreement/disagreement expressions (see separate exercise) could be used here too, the subject matter should not be moralistic but rather involve practicalities. Organise students into two groups (each divided into two) or have a class discussion. Tell one group they are in favour and the other they are against (or organise two groups according to their genuine opinions). Give the students a few minutes to think about what they are going to say. This could be in the style of a meeting with a chairperson.

**Suggested subject** - some members of staff have made the following suggestion: "The work premises ought to be completely refurbished. This would improve staff morale and increase productivity".

Give feedback at the end of the session on the correct and incorrect use of expressions used.