

Speaking reference

Describing something

Describing photos

The photo shows ...
There is / are ...
You can see ...
On the left / right ...
In the foreground / background ...

Describing places

This place is ...
It's a good place for + *verb* + -ing ...

Describing objects

It looks ...
It's a thing for + *verb* + -ing ...
It's a thing you use to + *infinitive* ...
It's a kind of ...
It's made of ...

Explaining what you mean

I'm not sure what it's called in English, but ...
I don't know what it's called in English, but ...

First impressions

I think he's / she's / it's ...
He / She / It looks (a bit / very) ...

Comparing places, things or people

It's the best / worst ...
It is(n't) as ... as ...
It's ... than ...
It's too ...
It isn't ... enough.

Discussing a topic

Talking about likes and dislikes

I love / (really) like + *verb* + -ing ...
I hate / can't stand + *verb* + -ing ...
I don't mind + *verb* + -ing ...

Talking about new experiences

Have you ever been to ...?
What did you think of ...?
Did you see / her / go ...?
I saw / heard / went to ...?
There was / were ...

Asking for opinions

What about you?
Do you agree?

Giving opinions

I (don't) agree (with you).
I'm not sure.
In my opinion, ...
I think / believe that ...
I'd say that ...

Expressing surprise and disbelief

That's amazing / incredible / unbelievable!
You must be kidding / joking!
Are you serious?
That can't be true!
I don't believe a word of it.

Functional language

Making suggestions

We could ...
We don't we ...
How about + *verb* + -ing ...?
Let's ...
Would you like to + *infinitive*?
Do you fancy + *verb* + -ing ...?

Responding to suggestions

No, thanks.
Sorry, but ...
I'd rather + *infinitive* ...
I'd love to.
That would be great.

Asking for advice

Can you give me some advice?
What would you do?
What should I do?
Should(n't) I ...?

Giving advice

If I were you, I'd ...
Couldn't you ...?
Why don't you ...?

Making requests

Do you mind if ...?
Do you think you could ...?
Could(n't) I / you ...?
Would that be alright?

Responding to requests

No, I'm afraid not.
That depends.
Sure.
No problem.
Yes, of course.