

## Test Your Speaking and Listening Skills

Discussion Question Starters – Cheat Sheet

*Choose a topic and off you go!*

**Follow-up  
questions:**

Why?

Why not?

Who?

What?

Where?

When?

Which?

How?

### General:

- What is...? Tell me about...
- Why do we have...? What do you know about...?
- What do you think of when you hear the word... / see...?
- Have you ever considered...?
- What are the main problems with...?
- What are the three most important facts about...?
- What different kinds of... are there?

### Opinion:

- Do you agree or disagree with this quotation...?
- Do you believe that...?
- How important is... to you?
- What are the advantages / disadvantages of...?
- What is your favourite / least favourite...?
- What do you like / dislike the most about...?
- What do you think about...?
- Would you support a proposal to...?
- Would you like to...?

### Comparison:

- Compare...
- Name five differences between... and...
- Do you prefer... or...?

### Experience:

- Have you ever...? Do you ever...?
- Can you...?
- What do you usually do when...?
- What happens when / if...?
- When was the last time you...?
- What experience do you have of...?
- What is / are... like in other countries, e.g. ...?

### Hypothetical:

- How would your life be different if...?
- If you were... what would you be?
- If you could be... for one day, what would you do?
- What would life be like without...?
- What would the world be like if...?
- What would happen if...? What would you do if...?
- How would you convince somebody who...?
- If money were no object...?
- Invent your own...

### Time perspective:

- How has... changed over the years?
- What are your earliest memories of...?
- How will... be different in the next ten / twenty / fifty years?