

Student Handout – Phrases
(print on card and laminate if possible)

Cut-up the following phrases, keeping them in their categories (1-6). Give each group a set of cards and ask them to deal them out so that each member has a selection of each category.

<u>1 Expressing sympathy and empathy</u>	
1 I'm sorry to hear about	1 That must be awful.....
1 That's so sad	1 I do sympathise with you
1 I hope things get better soon	1 Oh dear!
1 I hope you feel better soon	1 Too bad!
1 That's a pity	1 That's unfortunate
1 I know how you must be feeling	1 I know what you mean

<u>2 Expressing reservations</u>	
2 I have my doubts about that	2 Do you think that...? I doubt it
2 You may have a point there, but I'm still not sure.....	2 OK, but.....

3 Expressing caution	
3 I can't say if...	3 I would be careful with that if I were you
3 Just be careful with that	3 If I were you I would wait until...

4 Challenging arguments and opinions	
4 I can see your point, but...	4 Yes, but don't you think...?
4 Well...maybe...possibly	4 I think that's debatable
4 Perhaps, but don't you think that...?	4 I agree to some extent but...
4 But what about...?	4 I'm not so sure about that

5 Evaluating different standpoints	
5 That's a very good point	5 I agree entirely
5 That's an interesting point, but....	5 You might be right
5 I'm not so sure about that	5 Yes, but don't you think....

6 Justifying an argument	
6 I think	6 I feel that
6 As far as I'm concerned	6 I think...is right because...
6 ...that's why I feel that...	6 ...and so I think that...