

Some useful functional language at ISE III

Defending/Justifying an argument

What I am trying to explain is...

I see your point, but...

Don't you think it might be...

I probably agree with what you're saying, but in reality...

I think you might be making a few assumptions there...

I might be wrong but don't you think it might be...

Challenging arguments and opinions

Why do you say that?

Surely it isn't so clear cut as that...

I think it's exaggerating the point to say that...

Obviously not everyone would see it that way.

Are you not concerned about...

Are you seriously telling me...

Expressing beliefs

I strongly believe...

I am a firm believer in...

What are your thoughts regarding...

What are your beliefs on...

You seem very definite on that point...

Summarising/paraphrasing information

So in other words, what you are saying/I am saying is...

Are you saying/suggesting that...

Could you explain that in another way? Can you expand on that?

Essentially what are the main points to bear in mind...

In a nutshell, my main point is...

In just a few words can you summarise that for me?