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|  | ENG211 Discussion skills |

1. **The following discussion is about “product placement in movies”. Read it and take part in it as instructed.**

**Matt:** I honestly believe that product placement can support the production of more quality movies. It is a known fact that film-making requires lots of money and a really quality one would require millions of dollars to produce. There are great ideas waiting out there but because of lack of budget, most cannot be turned into real movies. I certainly believe that product placement will provide lots of money to the filmmaking industry and I really don’t care if the main character keeps drinking a specific brand of a beverage during the movie, as long as the movie is a high quality one…

**1. Interrupt Matt appropriately, 2. State your disagreement by giving your own example(s) or explanation(s).**

**You:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **The following discussion is about “whether celebrities should behave as role models”. Read it and take part in it as instructed.**

**Chris:** In my point of view, all celebrities have responsibilities as role models and they should behave accordingly. We should keep in mind that these people are on TV round the clock and they sometimes have more influence on children than parents, especially during adolescence. This gives them a huge responsibility. I think it is a must for celebrities to have an orderly life and to keep away from engaging in undesirable behavior, such as smoking.

**1. State your partial agreement to Chris by clearly stating the idea you agree with, then 2. State your disagreement by giving your own example(s) or explanation(s).**

**You:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **The following discussion is about “advertisements”. Read it and take part in it as instructed.**

**Susan:** We consumers are manipulated and brainwashed by advertisements. Advertisers have many tactics to trick us and we buy things which we don’t need at all in the end.

1. **Interrupt the speaker appropriately and agree with the speaker.**
2. **State your agreement by giving your own example(s) or explanation(s).**

**You:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**ANSWER KEY – SAMPLE ANSWERS**

1. Is it OK if I jump in for a second, Matt? I’m afraid I disagree with you. I think it is not possible to enjoy a movie completely if we are constantly being exposed to a specific brand of this or that. I, personally, will be distracted and keep looking for that product in every scene. I honestly believe that this is not fair. As a viewer, I pay a considerable amount to see a movie and I really don’t want to pay in order to watch some advertisement. Film-makers should get their budgets from other sources than advertisers if they are to produce enjoyable movies.
2. I’m not sure if I agree with you totally there, Chris. It’s true that celebrities are constantly on TV in a position to affect children but this should not mean that they cannot lead their own life as they wish. They are human as we are and they have the same rights. I think it is so unfair to dictate them rules about how to live their life. Besides, it’s parents’ responsibility to teach their children not to copy every behavior they see on TV. Even cartoons show undesirable behavior such as violence. Will we ban the cartoons next? There is no end to that. I honestly believe that everyone, celebrities too, should be free in choosing their own lifestyles.
3. Sorry to interrupt you, but I believe advertisers are quite successful at influencing our consumer behavior. They study human psychology and use this information wisely by pretending to inform us about new products, when, in reality, they are tempting us to buy some items which we would not normally plan to buy. And to do this they use some strategies such as using celebrities, nudity, or actors as experts in commercials. Making use of these, they are able to influence the viewers more.