Unleashing Your Inner Innovator: Presenting Ideas and Offering Opinions Study Guide

» **Presenting Ideas and Offering Opinions**

Useful Phrases:

Sharing ideas is an important part of creating innovative products and services. Here are some common phrases used in English to express ideas and opinions:

I think that…

I think that it's a good idea to expand our product line.

I have an idea.

I have an idea. Let's expand our product line.

Here's an idea.

Here's an idea. Let's expand our product line.

Using Questions to Express Ideas:

You can express an idea as a question. This helps soften what you are saying, and can also be used to express disagreement with someone else's idea.

How about…?

How about expanding our product line? It would really help our business.

Why don't we…?

Why don't we expand our product line? It would really help our business.

Using Negative Questions to Express Ideas:

You can also use *negative questions* to express an idea or opinion.

Don't you think…?

Don't you think it's a good idea to expand our product line? It might really help our business.

Wouldn't it be…?

Wouldn't it be a good idea to expand our product line? It might really help our business.

Responding to Negative Questions:

Responding to a negative question can be tricky. Answering *yes* means that you agree with the idea:

Keiko: Wouldn't it be a good idea to expand our product line?

John: Yes.

In this example, John is agreeing with Keiko that it *is* good idea to expand the company's product line.

Answering *no* to a negative question means you do *not* agree with the idea:

Keiko: Don't you agree that it would be a good idea to expand our product line?

John: No.

In this example, John is disagreeing with Keiko. He does *not* think it is a good idea to expand their product line.