

### A Panel Discussion

- in a panel discussion, representatives of different perspectives discuss a common topic
- some of the students act as representatives of different attitudes or opinions on a topic
- the people in the plenary initially listen, but can contribute at certain points or at the end of the discussion

**Opening:** The moderator...

- ... explains the topic.
- ... briefly introduces the representatives on the podium.
- ... informs about the (time) schedule.

**Discussion:** The moderator...

- ... emphasizes different aspects of the topic or the different attitudes.
- ... works out commonalities.
- ... points out possibilities for clarifying and developing a solution to the problem.

**Conclusion:** (1) "*conclusion*" - occurs when different points of views have become clear and possible solutions to problems have been worked out  
(2) "*Impossibility of a solution*" - summarize key aspects, no conclusion (especially with controversial topics)

### Useful phrases:

Giving an opinion

I'm convinced that ... / I think that ... / In my opinion ... / I believe ... / I'm sure ... / I think it's clear/obvious that ... / ...

Stating an argument

An argument for/against ... / Another reason is that ... / It is a fact that ... / An important point is ... / Don't forget that ...

Agreeing with someone

Absolutely! / Precisely. / You're right. / I think so too. / That's a very good point. / I agree with ... / That's true. / ...

Disagreeing with someone

I don't think ... / I don't agree with ... / It isn't as simple as that. / I doubt ... / I think you're wrong. / That's probably true, but ...

Giving examples

Take ..., for example. / For example, when you think about ... / For instance, look at ... / One example is ... / ...

Dealing with interruptions

Excuse me, I wasn't done yet. / Could you let me finish, please? / I would like to finish my sentence. / Please don't interrupt.

Asking for an opinion or explanation

What's your opinion? / If I understand you correctly ... / Do you really think ...? / What do you mean by ...? / ...

Coming to a conclusion or a compromise

Can we find a compromise? / Let's find a compromise. / Let's sum up our discussion. / The conclusion seems to be ... / ...