SPEAKING EXAMINATION

Useful

Describing pictures

in the foreground, in the background
in the top left-hand corner, in the bottom right-hand corner
on the right, on the left...
on the left-hand side
at the very top/bottom of the picture
in the center, in the middle...
next to..., right next to ..., close to...
above, under, below, over..., behind..., between...
opposite to, at the back of..., on top of...
a little to the right of...
directly opposite...
across (e.g., chairs are across the table from each other) - po przeciwnej stronie, lub po przeciwnej
(przez skrzyżowanie)
at the bottom (of a jar) but on the bottom (of the ocean)

Describing part of a picture that is unclear or that you are unsure about

I can just make out a...
There is something that looks like a...
It looks as if there might be...
I'm not sure, but there seems to be a...
This is a small detail, but I think I can see a...
Perhaps I'm wrong, but I think there could be a....

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Comparing pictures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Similarities</th>
<th>Differences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Both pictures show... There are some similarities between... For instance... They seem to have quite a lot in common, for example... There isn't much difference between them...</td>
<td>There are a number of differences... between..., including... Whereas yours is about X, mine is... They differ in several ways... The main difference is...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both of them...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Making comparison..

It’s much more important...

It’s not half so important...

There’s no comparison..

You just can’t compare them.,

Selecting

I definitely wouldn’t select this one.

Although this one seems..., it wouldn’t...

This one’s certainly wouldn’t be my choice
Definetely this one is

Asking for clarification

I’m not sure what you mean by... Could you tell me a bit more about? What did you say about,,? How would you describe... ?

Interrupting

Sorry to interrupt but,,

Could I just say something about it?
Yes, but hang on/hold on a minute,...

Making your point/expressing your opinion

I think,,, I’d say,,, I’m my opinion/view,,,, As I see it,

What I mean is (meant was)...  

Let me put it another way,,,

The fact of the matter is,,

What I was trying to say is...

But my point is,,

Don’t misunderstand me, but,..

Generally speaking, I think...

Personally, I haven’t the faintest idea about,,

To my mind...

I’d just like to say...

As far as I’m concerned...

I’m quite convinced that...

To be quite honest/frank...
Putting forward another point of view

Yes, but on the other hand, don't you think that...? But to look at it from another point of view...

But wouldn't you agree that...? But to look at it from another point of view...

Illustrating your point

For example,..
Just to give you an idea...
Look at the way,..
For instance,..
Just think of,..
Let me give you an example...

Generalisations

Generally speaking. As a rule,.. In general,..

Exceptions

There are exceptions...
The exception is,..
You can't really say that about,

If you need time to think (and you don't want to be silent)

Well, now let me see..
It's difficult to say exactly but...
I can't be sure but..

If you know nothing

Actually, I don't have any first-hand experience of...

Personally, I've never had anything to do/very little to do with... It's rather difficult to say, but I would imagine

Agreeing

(Yes) I agree with you (about that).
That sounds right/reasonable.
(T think) you could be/may be/must be right

Disagreeing

Excuse me, but that isn't quite right.
I take your point but that's not the way I see it.
I see what you mean but I'm not at all convinced.
True, but I'm afraid I disagree with...
You might be right, but...
What really happened was...
I don't think (I'm not sure) I agree with you (about that).
But surely that can't be right.
But don't you think that...?

Other turns in discussion / asking your partner
Wouldn't it be better if...?
I don't think ..., do you?
What about you? What about...
Don't you think ...? Wouldn't you agree that .
Would you agree with that?
What are your views on...?
Is this the case in your experience?

Summing up

In brief... In a word... So, what we are saying is... So, to sum up... In other words.