# Recording disagreement without enlarging it

CEFR C2 | Unit 4: Mediation | Reading

Read the original text. You may underline evidence and reread as needed.

Name _____ Date _____

MEETING EXTRACT

The venue coordinator says, "We could accommodate the exhibition in principle, provided the installation can be removed within a day." The artists' representative replies, "That would be difficult if removal includes repairing the walls, though we are not refusing the date." A funder adds that payment cannot be released until the venue is confirmed.

A hurried draft minute records: "The venue has agreed. The artists object to the date. Funding will follow." Each sentence is simpler than the exchange and each changes its force. Conditional willingness becomes agreement; a practical reservation becomes opposition; a prerequisite becomes a promise of payment.

The chair asks for a record that distinguishes settled points from dependencies. The venue is willing in principle, subject to the removal condition. The artists need clarification of what removal covers. The funder requires venue confirmation before considering release under the existing agreement. No participant has confirmed that all other funding conditions are satisfied.

A tactful follow-up can acknowledge the pressure without attributing obstruction. It should ask the coordinator to define removal, invite the artists to estimate the resulting work and state when the parties will review the date. Mediation does not require deleting disagreement. It requires preserving the shape of the disagreement so that the next response addresses the concern that was expressed, rather than a sharper or more convenient version of it.

Original Ilmiya practice text. Scenarios and research examples are fictional.