A. Common Mistake (よくある間違い)

Read the article below and see if you can improve it.

下の文章を読んで、改善できる点はないか探してみましょう。

Kei: Well, we can finish now unless anyone would like to say something.

Sue: Yes, can I say something, please?

Kei: Yes. Go ahead.

Sue: I think the motorcycle division is quite weak, and it’s bringing us down.
    It’s not profitable.

Kei: Interesting viewpoint. And do you have a solution to this problem?

Sue: Yes. I think we need to reconsider the core business, like, what should our core business be?

Kei: Do you feel certain about this?

Sue: Yes. In fact, if we don’t take this step I think we will fail.
B. Today’s point (今日のポイント)

Check those points with your tutor.
講師と一緒に、以下のポイントを確認しましょう。

When attempting to speak out in a meeting, use “Could I ...?” or “May I ...?” instead of “Can I ...?”

When attempting to voice your opinion in a meeting, you can say, “I think that...” If you want to strongly voice your opinion, use “definitely” or “I’m convinced that...”

C. Natural Conversation（会話練習）

Read the following sentences with your tutor keeping today’s points in mind.

Today’s pointに注意しながら、以下の文章を読みましょう。

Kei: Well, I think we can wrap it up now, unless anyone else has something they would like to add.

Sue: Could I say something, please?

Kei: Of course. Please, go ahead.

Sue: I think that the weakness of this company can be attributed to the motorcycle division – it’s unprofitable and we’re going to pay the price eventually.

Kei: I see. Interesting perspective. And how would you choose to remedy this situation?

Sue: I’m convinced that our best solution is to redefine our core business, the foundation of this company.

Kei: I see you feel strongly about this.

Sue: Yes, I do. I think that we need to take some time to consider this before moving forward.
D. Practice (練習問題)

Answer the questions.
以下の問いに答えましょう。

1. Do you feel comfortable or nervous offering your opinion in meetings?
2. Have you ever been made to feel bad for voicing your opinion honestly?
3. Does your boss encourage open communication in meetings?

E. Exercise (演習)

Do a rollplay with your tutor on the topic below using what you learned today.
今日学んだことを活かして、以下のトピックについて講師とロールプレイングしてみましょう。

In pairs, with one person acting as head of a department, and the other acting as employee, practice voicing an opinion strongly in a meeting. Reverse roles. Choose difficult topics, and be confident when sharing your opinion.