Finding the Right Words: 
Essential Gambits for Interpersonal Feedback

Making Suggestions/Giving Advice

May I make a suggestion?
Don’t you think . . . ?
Wouldn’t you say (agree or think) . . . ?
Wouldn’t it be better if we . . . ?
Why don’t we try . . . ?
We might want to consider . . . ?
Are we sure . . . ? (careful)
I need . . .

Let’s . . .
Perhaps we could . . . ?
Why not . . . ?
How about . . . ?
I suggest that we . . . ?

Asking for Suggestions/Advice

Do you have any suggestions?
What do you think?
What would you do?
What should I do?

Accepting and Rejecting Suggestions/Advice

That’s a good point (idea, approach).
Thanks for reminding me.
Yes, why don’t we try that?

I want to think about that.
I hadn’t thought about that.

That’s a good idea, but . . .
That would be great, except . . .
Yes, but don’t forget . . .
Yes, but keep in mind . . .
Yes, but consider . . .
Possibly, but . . .
Well, the problem is . . .