TOEFL Worksheet: Opinion and Transition Language in Speaking Task 2

The sentences below are from a response to the second speaking task. The question was this:

Some students prefer to work in groups with their classmates, while others prefer to work alone. Which do you prefer, and why?

1. I can’t ____________ but to feel that individual projects are nearly always the ________________ option.
   *

2. When comparing the two, there are a few things to take into ________________ about group projects.
   *

3. ____________, we should ________________ in mind that group projects require social interaction, a skill not related to the subject at hand.
   *

4. ________________, we should ________________ the issue of grading—it would be unfair to give all students in a group the same grade if they didn’t do the same amount of work.
   *

5. ________________, there are ____________ and cons to both types.
   *

6. ____________, if you ________________ me, group projects are, on the whole, more of a bad idea than a good one.
   *

Part A

The answers to the blanks above are provided in the box, along with ten other incorrect words. Check your answers and find the best match to each blank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>help</th>
<th>on the other hand</th>
<th>account</th>
<th>ask</th>
<th>what’s more</th>
<th>thus</th>
<th>preferable</th>
<th>because</th>
<th>pros</th>
<th>think</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>other</td>
<td>first</td>
<td>in that case</td>
<td>granted</td>
<td>consider</td>
<td>suggest</td>
<td>mind</td>
<td>despite</td>
<td>bear</td>
<td>by the way</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part B

After each sentence, write a paraphrase using your own words. Try to keep the main point of the sentence, and include words and phrases that show opinion and transition.