

Education: identifying agreement and disagreement

By the end of the lesson I will be able to:

- identify agreement and disagreement.
- understand a range of education terms.
- complete categorisation tasks.



INTRODUCTION

1. Look at these opinions on education. Discuss with a partner which ones you agree with and which ones you disagree with.

1. Schools give students too much homework.

2. Tests do not show students' ability as well as coursework.

3. Students should only study subjects that lead directly to a job.

4. Students should take responsibility for their own learning at university.



IELTS SKILLS

2.  Listen to the conversations about education. Match the conversations (1–4) to the topics (A–D).

Conversation 1

A. Working in groups

Conversation 2

B. Giving a good presentation

Conversation 3

C. Meeting deadlines

Conversation 4

D. Doing independent research

3.  Listen to the conversations from activity 2 again. Does the second speaker agree (A) or disagree (D) with the first speaker?

- A. Conversation 1 A/D
- B. Conversation 2 A/D
- C. Conversation 3 A/D
- D. Conversation 4 A/D

4. Put the expressions from the box into the correct part of the table.

I couldn't agree more	I think the exact opposite	I'm not convinced about that
I'm not sure I agree	That's a fair point	Definitely
I completely disagree	Absolutely	That's not always the case
I agree to some extent		

Agree	Disagree
Strongly agree	Strongly disagree



USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR IELTS

5. Match the words to the definitions.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. lecture (noun) | A. A one-to-one or small group session to discuss a subject |
| 2. seminar (noun) | B. Writing down the main ideas from reading or lectures |
| 3. tutorial (noun) | C. When something is due |
| 4. assignment (noun) | D. A talk given to a group of people about a particular subject |
| 5. note-taking (verb) | E. Study work you do, in preparation for a test |
| 6. deadline (noun) | F. A source of information that you mention in your writing |
| 7. revision (noun) | G. A meeting when a teacher and some students discuss a subject |
| 8. reference (noun) | H. Assessed work such as an essay, report or presentation |

6. Complete the sentences with words from activity 5. Change the form if necessary.

1. _____ are useful but it can be hard to join in the conversations if you don't know much about the subject.
2. I find _____ difficult. I prefer to record lectures and listen to them again afterwards.
3. _____ are really helpful because they give you the chance to talk individually with your tutor.
4. I find _____ really stressful. I like to work at my own pace.
5. I found the _____ hard to follow. Listening to one person speaking for an hour isn't the best way to learn.
6. It's important to use _____ when you write about other people's ideas.
7. I usually start my _____ too late. I need to start it much earlier this year so I have plenty of time to prepare before the exams.
8. My favourite type of _____ is giving a presentation. I find it more interesting than writing an essay.

7. Look at the sentences in activity 6. Discuss them with a partner and say whether you agree with them or not.



TASK FOCUS

8. Look at activity 9. Are these statements about the task true (T) or false (F)?

1. You must use options A, B and C twice each. T/F
2. Questions 1–6 follow the order of the recording. T/F



IELTS PRACTICE

9. Listen and answer the questions.

Do the speakers strongly agree, agree or disagree about how difficult the following tasks are?

Write the correct letter, A, B or C, next to questions 1–6.

- | |
|-------------------|
| A. Strongly agree |
| B. Agree |
| C. Disagree |

1. Preparing for tutorials _____
2. Taking part in seminars _____
3. Doing pre-lecture reading _____
4. Referencing well _____
5. Revising for tests _____
6. Planning your workload _____

10. Look at the task in activity 11. Complete the following steps:

1. Identify key words in the sentences and think of synonyms or other ways of expressing them.
2. Try to predict possible words for each gap.

11. 🎧 Listen and answer the questions.

Complete the sentences below.

Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS for each answer.

1. _____ is the most difficult thing about being a student.
2. Other people don't always _____.
3. _____ can also be a problem.
4. The assessment seems _____.

12. Discuss these questions with a partner.

1. How is university different from school?
2. What should students do to be successful in their university studies?
3. Apart from studying, what should students do at university?



SELF-STUDY

Watch the video on the IELTS Listening test. Make a note of any new information that the video gives you.
<http://tinyurl.com/hkjeupq>

Researching the past: improving spelling

By the end of the lesson I will be able to:

- understand some common types of spelling errors.
- deal with note completion tasks confidently.
- understand vocabulary related to research.



INTRODUCTION

1. What was life like in your country in the year you were born? How could you find out more about this?



USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR IELTS

2.  Listen and write down the words you hear.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. _____ (plural noun) | 5. _____ (noun) |
| 2. _____ (noun) | 6. _____ (noun) |
| 3. _____ (noun) | 7. _____ (plural noun) |
| 4. _____ (verb) | 8. _____ (adjective) |

3. Complete the information about research with words from activity 2. Change the word forms where necessary.

When historians do their 1. _____, they try to find 2. _____ about the lives of the

3. _____ who lived before us. They also try to understand the 4. _____ of change.

Historians do this by 5. _____ a number of 6. _____ that they find in 7. _____ and libraries. This process helps them to be 8. _____ when they write about the past.



IELTS SKILLS

4. Add the words from activity 2 to the table below. You will need to use one word twice.

Spelling groups

1. The /k/ sound is spelled -ch

2. The /ɜ:/ sound is spelled -ear

3. The /ɔ:/ sound is spelled -au

4. The /ɔ:/ sound is spelled -our

5. Two words in which the /s/ sound is spelled with a c

6. The /ai/ sound is spelled with a y

7. The /dʒ/ sound is spelled with a g

8. The /dʒ/ sound is spelled with a j

5. Add other words to the spelling groups in the table.



TASK FOCUS

6. Listen to a talk about historiography and correct two mistakes in the student's notes below.

Historiography:

Decisions for historians:

- leaders/events OR workers/family life?
- present facts OR judge people?
- own past OR others' past?

Methods:

- past: books
- now: recordings, photos, archaeology

Answer to these questions = **historiography**

7. Do the statements below refer to the talk or the student's notes from activity 6? Write 'talk' or 'notes' next to the statements.

- Most of the words used are nouns. _____
- All parts of speech are used. _____
- Articles are missed out. _____

8. Look at the student's notes in activity 9. Predict the following information about the conversation you will listen to.

- Where do you think the conversation is taking place?
- What is the topic of discussion?
- Which words do you think you might hear before the information you need is given?



9. Listen and answer the questions.

Complete the notes below.

Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS for each answer.

European historiography

Herodotus

Wrote 'Histories', a 1. _____ to explain the Persian Wars.

Famous for 2. _____ and scale of subject.

Von Ranke

Used 3. _____ from the past.

- diaries, speeches, etc.

Professor: University of Berlin

- started 4. _____ method, for open discussion.

Braudel

Studied 5. _____

- technology, economy, climate, etc.

10. Listen and answer the questions.

Complete the table below.

Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS for each answer.

Investigating the past

	Herodotus's method	Von Ranke's method	Braudel's method
Who to ask?	People he met	People alive at the time	1. _____
What to look for?	2. _____	3. _____ sources	Other people's research
Where to look?	In different countries	Archives and 4. _____	Papers and journals
Why do it?	For 5. _____	To find the 6. _____	To understand 7. _____ history

11. Discuss these questions.

1. Which method of learning about the past do you think is most interesting?
2. Do you think history is an important subject?
3. What are the benefits of studying history?



SELF-STUDY

Answer the questions in Section 3 of this IELTS Listening test.

<http://tinyurl.com/zj44l6f>

Consumerism: predicting words with similar meanings

By the end of the lesson I will be able to:

- identify key words in multiple choice questions.
- use synonyms to predict answers.
- answer multiple choice questions.



INTRODUCTION

1. Discuss the pictures with a partner. Which things would you prefer to spend money on?



1. Going on holiday



2. Buying clothes



3. Buying a computer



4. Learning a new skill



IELTS SKILLS

2. Look at the example of a multiple choice question. Write the underlined words from the question next to their synonyms (1–5).

The interviewer says that teenagers often want celebrity lifestyles because

- A. they want to be famous.

B. they want to be rich.

C. they want to be successful.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| 1. achieve your goals | _____ |
| 2. the way famous people live | _____ |
| 3. wealthy | _____ |
| 4. well-known | _____ |
| 5. young people | _____ |

3. Look at another example of a multiple choice question and work with a partner.

1. Underline the key words or expressions.
2. Think of synonyms or similar expressions for the words or expressions you underlined.

Research shows that leading managers usually

- A. take more risks.
- B. work harder.
- C. have better connections.

4. 🎧 Listen and answer the multiple choice question in activity 3.

5. 🎧 Were any of the words you thought of in activity 3 similar to what you heard? Listen again and write down any synonyms for the key words.



TASK FOCUS

6. Read the questions in activity 8 and answer the questions below.

1. Who is talking?
2. What is the main topic of their conversation?

7. Underline key words in activity 8 and think of synonyms for them.



8. Listen and answer the questions.

Choose the correct letter, A, B or C.

1. Robert tells his friend that people who buy lots of products
 - A. are less popular with other people.
 - B. are happier.
 - C. take more risks in life.
2. People who like experiences more than purchases tend to be
 - A. more cautious.
 - B. more serious.
 - C. more confident.
3. Robert believes famous people raise money for charity by doing exciting things because
 - A. it gets more publicity for the charity.
 - B. they get more enjoyment from it.
 - C. it raises more money for the charity.
4. Robert says people enjoy purchasing things because
 - A. it makes them feel successful.
 - B. it makes them feel rich.
 - C. it is a fun way to spend their time.
5. People buy products because
 - A. they are safer than experiences.
 - B. they show their status.
 - C. they show their wealth.

9. Listen and answer the questions.

Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS for each answer.

1. What do impulse shoppers worry about? _____
2. What can impulse shoppers not control? _____
3. Why do people purchase brands? _____
4. What do people not listen to in adverts? _____
5. What does a positive reaction to an advert affect most? _____



USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR IELTS

10. Match the words to the definitions

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. behaviour (noun) | A. Giving firm, continued support to a person or organisation |
| 2. consumer (noun) | B. The way that someone or something is thought of by others |
| 3. purchase (verb) | C. The way someone acts |
| 4. brand (noun) | D. A shopper |
| 5. loyalty (noun) | E. A physical thing you can buy |
| 6. image (noun) | F. To buy |
| 7. product (noun) | G. An activity that you do |
| 8. experience (noun) | H. A type of product that is made by a particular company |

11. Complete the questions with words from activity 10. Use the plural form of the words if necessary.

1. How do companies influence _____ and their _____?
2. Why do people _____ luxury _____ such as expensive watches?
3. Do you prefer to spend money on _____ or things?
4. Why do people show _____ to some well-known _____?
5. Do you think about your _____ when you buy things?

12. Discuss the questions from activity 11 with a partner.



SELF-STUDY

Listen to a recording about ethical shopping. Then make a comment about this type of shopping on the webpage.

<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/uk-culture/ethical-shopping>