

Intercultural communication



ELP-Level 8

2022-10

Week 8 - Focus on Grammar: Adjectives and adverbs



Read the following excerpt:

Thais speak in a very soft and gentle voice and manner. This is based on the cultural belief that speaking softly is how one shows good manners and that they have been well raised. Voices are raised only to show the emotion of anger or in a heated argument or confrontation. When first hearing persons in the United States speak so noisily, some Thais believe the speakers are particularly rude and angry or even don't like Thai because people from the United States speak incredibly loudly.



Complete the following table with the underlined words:

Adjectives	Adverbs



How do you know when to use an adjective or an adverb? Are there any clues?



Fill in the gap with either adjectives or adverbs.

1. _____ go before nouns.
2. _____ describe verbs, adjectives or adverbs.
3. _____ usually ends in "ly".
4. _____ go after the verb "to be".
5. Irregular _____ include "well", "fast" and "hard".



Read the short story below. Choose the correct word to fill in the gaps.



It was a beautiful summer afternoon with the sun shining ____ (**bright/brightly**). I phoned my friends asking them to come over for a barbecue. After making the calls I drove into town to buy some food and drink. When I arrived at the shops I was ____ (**surprised/surprisingly**) as busy it was. Everyone must have been shopping for a barbecue!

The first butchers I visited had ____ (**amazing/amazingly**) run out of sausages. I didn't realize that I'd have to look so ____ (**hard/hardly**) for some sausages! The next shop had some left so I bought some. After visiting a few more shops, I had finished my shopping. But I was starting to feel worried as it was 6 pm and I had invited my friends to visit at 6.30 pm. I ____ (**quick/quickly**) rushed to the car park with all of my shopping and threw it ____ (**hasty/hastily**) into the boot. I noticed that the cars were moving out of the car park really ____ (**slow/slowly**) and there was a bit of a traffic jam!

Once I got out of the car park I was able to drive ____ (**fast/fastly**), but it was still past 6.30 pm when I arrived home and I was worried. As I drove into my driveway, I smiled when I saw my friends sitting in my front garden. ____ (**Luckily/lucky**) they had realised I was stuck at the shops and they waited for me. We had a wonderful barbecue!

Week 10: Academic Skills: Expressing your opinion in a group discussion



What words are commonly used when expressing an opinion?



Watch the video "[giving opinions](#)". Then, answer the questions that follow.



1. What is the tone used during the discussion?

2. What is the conversation about?

3. How is culture affecting communication between the participants?



Now watch the video for a second time, paying attention to the words the participants use to express their opinions.

1. I really don't like...	2. Personally, I think...	3. Sure... but in my opinion...
4. Don't you agree?	5. To be honest, I definitely prefer...	6. Well, I have to say...
7. You can't be serious!	8. Ok, I agree....but if you ask me...	9. I don't think that's right...
10. Oh sure!...	11. but I always think...	12. You've got to be kidding me!

Then, classify the words in the box depending on how they can be used when expressing your point of view.

Expressing your opinion	Make our statement stronger	Ask for other people's opinion	Agreeing or disagreeing
1	5	4	3
2	11		7
6			8
9			12

Tips to consider when expressing your opinions

1. Express your opinion with positive or negative phrases.
2. Use adverbs or adjectives to enhance opinion phrases.
3. Keep a conversation going with opinion questions.



4. Explain your opinion with reasons.

More dialogue expressions of asking and giving opinions

GIVING OPINIONS

- As far as I'm concerned...
- I feel certain that...
- My impression is that...
- As I see it...
- I'm convinced that...
- It seems to me that...
- Well, I reckon/suppose (that)...
- As for me, I reckon...
- I suppose that...

PARTLY AGREEING

- I see your point but...
- I kind of agree with you/that...
- I agree with you to an extent, however,....
- You make a good point, but...

GIVING REASONS

- Firstly... secondly...
- One reason is...another is....
- To start with... added to that...
- You make a good point, but...

INTERRUPTING

- Excuse me, can I just say...
- Sorry to interrupt, but...
- I see your point, but...

STOPPING SOMEONE FROM INTERRUPTING YOU

- If you'd let me finish...
- Just a minute, I'm speaking...



Now, you will participate in a group discussion with 2 or 3 other students. The teacher will assign a topic for you to discuss, making sure you use the expressions to give an opinion. This activity will allow you to practice before the Performance Task 2, and receive feedback from your professor.

• • •

References

1. DuPraw, M.E and Axner, M. Working on Common Cross-cultural Communication Challenges. <https://www.pbs.org/ampu/crosscult.html> 1997.
2. Fish can't see water. The Lewis model https://youtu.be/_T98wFx73V0 Sept. 12, 2013.
3. Richard Lewis communications. The Lewis model-Know culture for better business. <https://www.crossculture.com/the-lewis-model-dimensions-of-behaviour/> 2021.
4. Lewis, R. When Cultures Collide: Leading Across Cultures. 3rd edition. Nov. 26, 2010.
5. Kewin McDaniel. Hofstede's cultural dimensions. <https://youtu.be/PhT5Q0sJP9Q> Oct. 23rd, 2020.
6. Hofstede. <https://www.hofstede-insights.com/product/compare-countries/> 2021.
7. Hofstede. <https://www.hofstede-insights.com/country-comparison/luxembourg-malaysia/> Oct. 20th, 2020.
8. Jandt, F.E. An introduction to intercultural communication. Identities in a global community. Chapter 1 Defining culture and communication. Tenth edition. California State University, San Bernardino. 2021.