

2.8

SPEAKING

Asking for and giving an opinion
 • agreeing and disagreeing

I can ask for, give, agree with and disagree with an opinion.

- 1 Look at the jobs in the box and number them from most (5) to least (1) important for society.

(an actor a farmer a football player a nurse
 a pilot a police officer a scientist a surgeon)

- 2  1.33 Read and listen to a conversation between a brother and sister and answer the questions.



- 1 What do they disagree about?
- 2 Who does their father agree with?
- 3 Who do you agree with?

- 3  1.33 Use the SPEAKING FOCUS to complete the phrases in the conversation. Then listen again and check.

Tom: Goal! Messi's just scored a fantastic goal! He's definitely the best footballer in the world!

Jan: Hm, I'm not ¹ _____ about that.

Tom: What do you know about football?

Jan: I know that some football players get millions of euros a month! If ² _____, they earn too much.

Tom: That's ³ _____. Only a few players earn that much and they deserve it.

Jan: No way! Football players don't save lives! Football's just a game!

Tom: Are ⁴ _____? It's the most popular game in the world.

Jan: That's true but they don't do anything important. They just kick a ball!

Tom: The ⁵ _____, football players can only play when they're young so they have to earn a lot in a short time.

Jan: I'm ⁶ _____. I just don't think footballers are good role models.

Tom: I'm sorry, ⁷ _____ – they're great role models. They train really hard ...

Dad: Hey, what's going on in here? Calm down you two.

Jan: He thinks it's OK to pay Messi two million euros a month! What ⁸ _____ that?

Dad: That's ridiculous.

Jan: You see!

Dad: To ⁹ _____, I think he should get at least ten million!

SPEAKING FOCUS

Asking for someone's opinion

What do you think about ...?

Giving an opinion

I think .../I (just) don't think .../If you ask me .../
 The thing is .../To be honest ...

Agreeing with an opinion

I agree./That's true./Absolutely!

Half agreeing with an opinion

I'm not so sure about that./I'm not convinced.

Disagreeing

That's not true./I'm sorry, I don't agree with you.

Disagreeing strongly

No way! (informal)/Are you kidding? (informal)
 I'm afraid I completely disagree.

Note:

If you have no strong opinions, you can say:
 Personally, I don't feel strongly one way or the other.

- 4  1.34 Read the opinions below and choose the appropriate responses in a and b. Then listen and check.

1 I think female athletes should earn the same salary as male athletes.

a I agree . / No way! All athletes should be paid equally.

b Absolutely. / I'm not convinced . Male athletes attract more spectators.

2 If you ask me, running is the best sport in the world.

a I'm afraid I completely disagree. / That's true . You can do it anywhere and any time.

b Absolutely. / That's not true . Playing team sports is much better.

3 In my opinion, golf is for old people.

a I agree . / I'm not convinced. It's too slow for young people.

b Are you kidding? / I agree. My brother is twenty and he loves playing golf.

4 I think boxing should be banned. It's too dangerous.

a Absolutely. / No way! I think it's great.

b I'm sorry, I don't agree with you. / That's true . It's too violent.

- 5 **SPEAKING** Practise the dialogues in Exercise 4. Choose answer a or b according to your own opinion.

- 6 **SPEAKING** Discuss the topics below. Use the SPEAKING FOCUS to help you.

- We should do more sport at school.
- Animals should not be used in sport.

ROLE-PLAY 9 Asking for and giving an opinion

 Watch the video and practise. Then role-play your dialogue.

LIVEWORKSHEETS