B2 Communication Verbs Worksheet

Persuasion, influence and strong reactions - no answer key included

PART 1 - MATCH UP

Match the verbs A-M with the meanings 1-13. The verbs and meanings are mixed, so think carefully.

Verb	Your answer	Meaning
A. assure	___	1. make someone feel less worried
B. confront	___	2. strongly criticise something as wrong
C. condemn	___	3. make something seem bigger or more serious than it is
D. deceive	___	4. make someone do or think something in an unfair way
E. discourage	___	5. tell someone confidently that something is true or will happen
F. exaggerate	___	6. give someone the wrong idea or false information
G. flatter	___	7. make someone feel afraid or nervous
H. intimidate	___	8. laugh at someone in an unkind way
I. manipulate	___	9. face someone directly about a problem
J. mislead	___	10. make someone less willing to do something
K. mock	___	11. say nice things to please someone, often too much
L. provoke	___	12. cause a strong or angry reaction
M. reassure	___	13. trick someone by making them believe something false

PART 2 - GAP FILL

Complete each sentence with the correct verb from Part 1. Change the form if necessary.

Verbs: assure - confront - condemn - deceive - discourage - exaggerate - flatter - intimidate - manipulate - mislead - mock - provoke - reassure

1. The hotel manager tried to _____ guests that the fire alarm had only been a technical fault.
2. During the meeting, Sara finally _____ her colleague about the rude comments he had made.
3. The school publicly _____ bullying after several parents complained.
4. The fake website _____ customers into entering their bank details.
5. A single bad mark should not _____ you from applying for university.
6. My brother always _____ minor problems and makes them sound like disasters.
7. The salesman tried to _____ the client by praising her business experience.
8. The aggressive tone of the email _____ several junior employees.
9. Some influencers _____ their followers by only showing a perfect version of life.
10. The headline _____ readers because the article was actually about a different issue.
11. It is unacceptable to _____ someone because of their accent or appearance.
12. The politician's careless joke _____ a wave of criticism online.
13. The doctor tried to _____ the patient before explaining the test results.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

PART 3 - MULTIPLE CHOICE QUIZ

Choose the correct answer. Circle A, B, C or D.

1. If an advert gives false information, it may _____ customers.
A reassure B mislead C flatter D condemn

2. If you speak to someone directly about a problem, you _____ them.
A confront B mock C discourage D exaggerate

3. If someone makes a situation sound much worse than it is, they _____ it.
A deceive B exaggerate C assure D provoke

4. If a manager makes employees feel afraid, the manager may _____ them.
A reassure B intimidate C flatter D condemn

5. If a friend tells you that everything will be fine, they try to _____ you.
A mock B manipulate C reassure D deceive

6. If a newspaper strongly criticises violence, it _____ it.
A condemns B misleads C flatters D assures

7. If a person controls others unfairly, they _____ them.
A discourages B manipulates C confronts D mocks

8. If someone laughs at another person unkindly, they _____ them.
A mock B reassure C provoke D assure

9. If a teacher tells students not to give up, the teacher does not want to _____ them.
A discourage B deceive C flatter D mislead

10. If a rude comment causes an angry reaction, it _____ people.
A provokes B assures C condemns D flatters

11. If someone says very nice things just to get an advantage, they may be trying to _____ you.
A confront B flatter C condemn D mock

12. If a company promises that your data is safe, it tries to _____ you.
A assure B deceive C provoke D discourage

13. If criminals trick people online, they _____ them.
A deceive B reassure C condemn D confront

PART 4 - SPEAKING CARDS / WHEEL OF FORTUNE

Choose a question, answer it in 3-4 sentences, and try to use one target verb.

1. Have you ever been misled by an advert or online post? What happened?	2. What kind of behaviour should schools strongly condemn?
3. When is it necessary to confront someone directly?	4. What can discourage adults from learning English?
5. Do you think social media can manipulate people's opinions? Why?	6. What usually reassures you before an important meeting or exam?
7. Why do people sometimes exaggerate problems?	8. Is it ever acceptable to flatter someone? Explain your opinion.

LIVEWORKSHEETS