

LIFE SKILLS CRITICAL THINKING

ACCEPTING OTHER PEOPLE'S OPINIONS



LIFE SKILLS

Other people's ideas

- can help us learn
- can be fun
- make life interesting

We should listen to other people and enjoy learning new things when we discuss opinions.

1 Make sentences that are true for you.

I	always	agree with my parents.
	often	agree with my best friends.
	sometimes	agree with my teachers.
	never	change my opinion. like new ideas.

In pairs, compare your sentences. Did you have the same ideas?

2 Explain why each sentence is true for you.

I sometimes agree with my parents because they know more than me, but other times they are too strict.

3 Look at the words in the box. In pairs, discuss the questions.

films food holidays
homework music sports

- 1 Do you talk to your friends or family about these topics?
- 2 Do you always have the same opinions?



How important is it **to listen?**



We talk to other people and give our opinions every day. Maybe you talk about what to do after school with your friends, or about plans for the weekend with your family. It's important to give your opinions, but it is also important to listen to other people's opinions and think about the best option. How good are you at listening? Do the quiz.

4 Do the quiz and choose the two best options. Then in pairs, compare your answers.

- 1 When you listen to someone, do you ...
- a look at him/her and smile?
 - b say, 'That's interesting' or 'That's a good idea'?
 - c **interrupt** and give your own opinion as soon as possible?

- 2 When someone has an idea, do you ...
- a always **agree with** him/her and think his/her ideas are good?
 - b ask questions about the idea to get more information?
 - c always disagree with him/her and often think he/she is wrong?

- 3 When you have a different opinion to someone else, do you ...
- a **ignore** him/her by not listening and turning your head away?
 - b think about his/her opinion before you say you don't like it?
 - c explain your opinion and ideas?

- 4 How can a group of people agree when they have different opinions?
- They can ...
- a explain their reasons for their opinions.
 - b **exchange** ideas with each other by talking and listening.
 - c not work together.

- 5 Is it good to change your opinion when you listen to other people's ideas?
- a Sometimes. I **respect** other people and know I am sometimes wrong.
 - b Never. I'm always right and I don't like to change.
 - c Maybe. If I have a good reason.



5 Match the questions 1–5 in Exercise 4 to the advice a–e.

- a** It's important to have your own opinions. Don't always agree immediately.
- b** Sometimes you can change your opinion because you listen and decide another idea is better.
- c** You should be polite to other people and listen carefully when they are speaking.
- d** It's best to talk to other people when there is a problem and think of ideas that make everyone happy.
- e** It is important to listen to other people's opinions and decide if the ideas are good or bad. Don't get angry or stop listening. Maybe they are really good ideas!

- 1** When you listen to someone, do you ...
- 2** When someone has an idea, do you ...
- 3** When you have a different opinion to someone else, do you ...
- 4** How can a group of people agree when they have different opinions?
- 5** Is it good to change your opinion when you listen to other people's ideas?

6 Match the words in the box to the definitions.

ignore

exchange

agree with

respect

interrupt

1 not pay attention to

2 have the same opinion as

3 speak when another person is speaking

4 be polite to

5 give and receive



33

7

Listen to David and Jenny discussing what to do for their friend Martha's birthday. Do they agree in the end?





Listen again and answer the questions.

- 1 Why doesn't David like the idea of a surprise party?

Because they [] and it's [] every year.

- 2 Why does Jenny think the cinema could be a good idea?

because [].

- 3 What's the weather going to be like on Saturday?

It's [].

- 4 Who will pay for the food and drink?

everyone, but [].

- 5 Who will send the invitations?

[] will send them.

- 6 What does Jenny want to give Martha?

[].



USEFUL LANGUAGE

great idea

I'm sure

Yes, but

I'm not sure

Maybe, but

Jenny: We did it last year and it was fun.

David: (1) why not do something different?

Jenny: We could go to the cinema.

David: (2) the cinema is expensive.

Jenny: You're right. Do you like the idea of a picnic in a park?

David: Yes, I do. That's a (3)

David: Do you think she wants to go to the park in the centre for her birthday?

Jenny: (4) that's the best place.

David: Do you think Martha likes orange or lemon?

Jenny: (5) What do you think is best?

10 Are the statements true (T) or false (F) for you? In pairs, compare your answers and explain your opinion. Be polite!

I think . . .

1 football is more interesting than basketball.

2 pizza is better than pasta.

3 cats are nicer than dogs.

4 maths is easier than history.

PROJECT

Planning an exchange visit

A group of students from another country are coming to visit your school. Your teacher wants you to plan some activities for the day. Prepare a timetable for the day.

- Work in small groups.
- Read the situation.
- Individually, think of an activity you could do with the students and think of a reason why it is a good idea.
- Write your ideas in your notebook.
- In your group, decide what activities to do and prepare a timetable for the day. Use the *Useful language* from Exercise 9 to discuss the best options.
- Make a welcome poster for the visiting students to see when they arrive. Include pictures and photos to make it attractive.
- Present your poster to another group or to the class.