

- 4 IDENTIFY** Read the student report based on the results of a survey conducted at her college. Is the information similar to or different from your opinions about your local facilities?

Recently, we conducted a survey into the availability and popularity of local sports and recreation facilities. In the survey, we interviewed a number of young people and asked a range of questions that were designed to determine whether the provision of local sports and recreation opportunities was considered satisfactory as well as how often people used the facilities.

In an attempt to find out which facilities were the most popular, the participants were also asked to rate their experiences using the facilities.

According to the survey, 81 percent of the participants felt that local sports and recreation facilities were satisfactory, although some felt that more opportunities could be made available for teenagers, such as skate parks, youth clubs, and gaming centers.

The majority of participants (78 percent) responded that they use local facilities at least two to three times a month, with 15 percent using them more frequently, particularly in the case of sports and swimming facilities where they attend weekly classes or events. However, 7 percent replied that they do not regularly use any local facilities. Reasons given included lack of knowledge about the facilities and scheduled classes, not having enough time due to work or study commitments, and facilities being too expensive.

In terms of satisfaction, the most popular facility is the local park, followed by the recreation center, with popular activities including soccer, baseball, badminton, and martial arts. Many participants have started using the recently opened climbing center, although not all had tried it. Those who had tried it rated it highly for satisfaction.

Community pools were also ranked highly by 21 percent of the participants, and similarly, 19 percent enjoy the experience of using local hiking and bike trails. In contrast, the lowest-ranking facility was the walking paths, the difference being that although the cycle paths are well-maintained, walking paths are not. Of all the facilities, the recreation center was the most popular. The climbing center and bike trails both came in second in terms of popularity. The fourth most popular facility was the community pool.

Overall, the evidence suggests that local sports and recreation facilities are considered satisfactory and are used by the majority of participants, and these participants enjoy using them. Conversely, however, some participants seem to think the town would benefit from more facilities, especially for younger people. Other recommendations include better advertising of available facilities to make people aware of them and more affordable prices for some activities. These changes would encourage people to participate.



WRITING SKILL Phrases that signal similarity and difference

We use a range of phrases to indicate similarities and differences. These are especially useful when we are writing about facts or data that we want to compare. Common examples include the following.

- **Similarity**
similar (to), similarity between...and..., the same (as), equal, equally, likewise, similarly (to)
- **Difference**
different from, differently than, difference between...and..., in contrast, in comparison, conversely, however, although

Try to notice how these phrases are used in texts. This will help you understand and make comparisons between subjects and data.

- 5 IDENTIFY** Use one word to complete each sentence. Use the phrases in the Writing Skill box to help you.

- 1 The new schedule starts next week, and you'll have the instructor before.
- 2 People say they can see a between me and my cousin, but I can't.
- 3 Well, that's my opinion. I know you feel than I do.
- 4 Some people think soccer and American football are the same sport, but they're wrong—they're completely .
- 5 Most of the participants responded positively, which we expected. , we got some negative responses, which were a surprise.
- 6 Climbing is much safer in to snowboarding.

- 6 INTEGRATE** Identify examples of similarity and difference phrases in the report. What does each phrase compare or contrast?