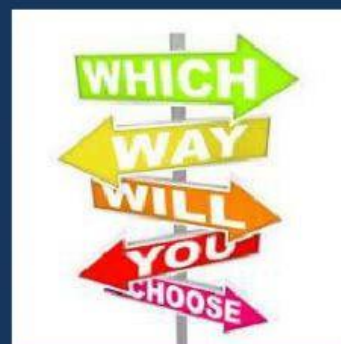


Reading

**Making your mind up! – by Amy Wilson**

Have you hesitated to make a decision or even put off making one? If, like me, you answer 'yes', read on. In my experience, it's all about confidence. Here are some ideas to help you:

- Learn a new skill. <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_ I have been taking art classes for two years now. It really allows me to concentrate more easily and it makes me feel good.
- <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_ When I've spent time with older people, they have told me about the mistakes they have made. This helps me plan for my future. When I've listened to the dreams of people my own age, it makes me think about my own. This has helped me make decisions and commit to them.
- Have lots of experiences. Get together with your friends and do different things. <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_ These experiences have given me more confidence, and the knowledge that I can do things myself.
- Don't always ask other people for their advice. Some people think very differently. What is right for them may not be right for you. For example, if your friends have different tastes in clothes, don't ask for their advice.  
<sup>4</sup> \_\_\_
- Write down the pros and cons. <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_ I can always see whether there are more advantages than disadvantages. Big or small – I do this for many decisions. Follow these tips and you'll never have to avoid making a decision again!



Read Amy's blog post. Match sentences A–G with gaps 1–5. There are two sentences that you do not need. (10 marks)

- A I have always accepted any invitation to see or do something new.
- B It never fails.
- C Take up a new sport, learn a new language or learn to play a musical instrument.
- D I can't make up my mind.
- E Get to know people of all ages.
- F Think for yourself!
- G They just don't work.

**Are they True or False ? Support your choice**

Art helps you be focused.

Asking for advice is not always a good idea.

Older people can teach you.