BRITISH COUNCIL

LearnEnglish Teens

Speaking skills practice: Different opinions – exercises

It's the first day back at school, and Gemma and Jack don't agree about their teachers ...

Do the preparation exercise first. Then watch the video and follow the instructions to practise your speaking.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the definitions and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

1……..	awful	a.	excellent
2……..	No way!	b.	a lot
3……..	strict	c.	really bad
4……..	loads (informal)	d.	doesn't let anyone break the rules
5……..	embarrassing	e.	That's impossible!
6……..	brilliant	f.	making you feel stupid or confused in front of other people

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

1.	Gemma and Jack both had good holidays.	*True*	*False*
2.	Jack enjoyed his French lesson.	*True*	*False*
3.	Gemma thinks Madame Martin is a good teacher.	*True*	*False*
4.	Jack doesn't like speaking French.	*True*	*False*
5.	Jack is happy with his maths teacher.	*True*	*False*
6.	Jack hates Mr Greenwood.	*True*	*False*
7.	Jack changes his mind about Mr Greenwood when he talks to Gemma.	*True*	*False*
8.	Jack and Gemma both like Miss McCloud.	*True*	*False*

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2. Check your understanding: gap fill

Complete the dialogue with phrases from the box.

with you	my favourite	the time	loads	way! Really?
summer holiday	your teacher	brilliant teacher		much homework
really good	was awful	embarrassing	to disagree	really well

Gemma: Hi Jack!

Jack: Oh, hi Gemma!

Gemma: How was your [1]_____?

Jack: Yeah, good thanks … and yours?

Gemma: Yeah, great! How's your first day back at school going?

Jack: Oh ... OK. Just had French. It [2]_____.

Gemma: Oh, yeah? Who's [3]_____?

Jack: Madame Martin.

Gemma: Oh, she's [4]_____! I like Madame Martin.

Jack: No [5]_____ She makes us speak French all [6]_____.

Gemma: Yeah! She's strict but you learn [7]_____ in her classes.

Jack: Hmmm, I see what you mean, but it's so [8]_____! And I don't understand her.

Gemma: That's because she's speaking French, Jack! And who's your maths teacher?

Jack: Mr Thomas. He's [9]_____.

Gemma: Really?! I've got Mr Greenwood. He explains everything [10]_____.

Jack: Yeah, Mr Greenwood's OK, but he gives so [11]_____! I prefer Mr Thomas.

Gemma: OK, well Mr Greenwood's my favourite.

Jack: OK, let's agree [12]_____. Who have you got for science?

Gemma: Miss McCloud. She's a [13]_____ and she's so nice.

Jack: Yeah, I agree [14]_____ there.

Gemma: I can't believe it! Finally you agree with me!

Jack: Whatever!

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3. Check your understanding: multiple selection

Which replies are possible? For each question, tick (✓) five possible answers.

1. How was your summer holiday?

.....	Yeah, definitely.	.....	Great, thanks.
.....	Good, thanks.	.....	Not really.
.....	Mmm, it was all right.	.....	He was nice.
.....	Amazing!	.....	Awful.

2. He's my favourite.

.....	Really?!	.....	Is he?!
.....	Yeah, mine too.	.....	Me neither.
.....	I don't think so.	.....	Yeah! I like him too.
.....	No way!	.....	When?

3. She's strict but you learn loads in her classes.

.....	Why not?	.....	Yeah, I see what you mean.
.....	No.	.....	But she makes you speak French all the time!
.....	Yeah, I see your point.	.....	Yeah, but it's so embarrassing!
.....	Let's agree.	.....	That's true.

4. Miss McCloud's a brilliant teacher.

.....	I know! I love her!	.....	Do you like her? I'm not sure.
.....	It's OK.	.....	Yes, she is!
.....	Yeah, I agree with you there.	.....	Finally, we agree about something!
.....	It was awful.	.....	Don't worry.

Discussion
Who's your favourite teacher? Tell us your opinion and why you like them.

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