

UNIT 5: ATTITUDE AND OPINION

Attitude and opinion

In this unit you will practise:

- identifying attitudes and opinions
- multiple choice
- persuading and suggesting
- matching items
- reaching a decision

1. Identifying attitudes and opinions

In Listening Sections 1 and 3, the speakers are often trying to make a decision or reach an agreement. Identifying the speakers' opinions can help you to answer the questions correctly.

1.1. Listen to eight extracts. What does each speaker show?

1. strong agreement
2. neither complete agreement nor complete disagreement.
3. complete disagreement

1.2. Listen again and complete the extracts.

1. Well, I
2. I think that's a
3. Well, I'm about that.
4. I think you're
5. Hmm, that's a bit
6. I think that's
7. That seems to me.
8. I have to admit I don't like the

This material is for internal use only.

1.3. In Listening Sections 3 and 4, you may be asked to identify a speaker's attitude. Match words 1-7 with synonyms a-g.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. worried | a. dubious |
| 2. enthusiastic | b. hesitant |
| 3. afraid | c. annoyed |
| 4. confused | d. concerned |
| 5. irritated | e. scared |
| 6. reluctant | f. puzzled |
| 7. doubtful | g. eager |

1.4. Listen to an extract from a Listening Section 3 task. What aspect of the research did the students find surprising? Choose the correct answer (A, B or C). Write down all the words/phrases that speakers use to mean 'surprising' or 'unsurprising'.

- A. The amount of time it took to achieve results
- B. The reaction of the public to the research
- C. The findings that the research produced.

2. Persuading and suggesting

In Listening Sections 1 and 3, in order to reach a decision, you will hear the speakers make suggestions, agree, disagree or try to persuade each other.

Test Tip: For matching tasks like this, the topics in the questions will be discussed in the same order as they are listed. But you will hear the different options in the box in a random order. As you listen, you need to keep looking at the list of options.

2.1. Look at the Listening Section 3 task below. Before you listen, complete these tasks.

1. Try to think of a synonym or paraphrase for the underlined words/phrases
2. Read through decisions A-F in the box several times so that you are familiar with the different options to choose from.
3. Decide whether you will hear the decisions or the presentation sections in order.

2.2. Listen and complete the task. Find phrases which are used to make a suggestion, agree with an idea, or disagree.

Questions 1-4

What do the students decide to do with the different sections of their project?

Write the correct letter, (A-F), next to questions 1-4 below.

Presentation Sections

1. Introduction
2. Advantages
3. Disadvantages
4. Conclusion

Decisions

- A. reduce the length
- B. change the method of presentation
- C. write some more
- D. make it more interesting
- E. check the sources are reliable
- F. make sure they have current data

3. Reaching a decision

In Listening Sections 1 and 3, you will often hear people discussing a problem, suggesting solutions and then reaching a decision. A discussion like this might focus on the advantages and disadvantages of each suggestion.

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3.1. Listen and answer the questions. Make a note of any language that the speakers use to show they reach a decision or agreement.

	Possible advantages/disadvantages
Section 1 The speakers decide to travel to the airport by A. taxi B. bus C. car	
Section 3 What do the students decide to do next? A. ask their tutor for help B. do more research on the topic C. produce a typed copy of their notes	