

Language focus

Phrases to show the relationship between ideas

1 Match the sentence halves.

- 1 I'm not all that keen on hot drinks. Having _____
 - 2 We'd only met Diego once, but even _____
 - 3 It's supposed to rain later. Bearing _____
 - 4 Shall we start the lesson considering _____
 - 5 Half of us are vegetarian. Given _____
 - 6 Andrej didn't ask us to visit him in hospital, but all _____
- a that you're all here?
 - b said that, I like to drink tea when I'm sick.
 - c that, shall we get two different pizzas?
 - d that in mind, do you still want to go out?
 - e the same, I think we should.
 - f so, we were able to recognise him in the crowd.

2 Complete the sentences with an appropriate word. There may be more than one possible answer.

- 1 You and Rachel have worked really hard. Taking that into _____, we're giving you both a bonus.
- 2 Tim and I have very different views, but in _____ of that, we get on well.
- 3 I'm not keen on loud music and crowds. _____ all that, I will be coming to the concert tonight!
- 4 I know having children can be hard, but _____ so, I still want them.
- 5 I get all my news from a reputable newspaper. Having _____ that, I do read stories on social media, too.
- 6 I thought the team tried their best, but then _____, so did their opponents.

3 Choose the correct following sentence, a or b.

- 1 I don't personally think that voting should be a legal requirement.
 - a Having said that, I can see the benefits.
 - b Given all that, it's not something we should pursue.
- 2 I don't think there's any harm in giving children some freedom.
 - a Bearing that in mind, we can involve them in decision-making.
 - b But even so, we should protect them as much as we can.
- 3 It's annoying when you can't get online.
 - a But even so, it's quite nice to have a break from technology for a while.
 - b Considering that, we should avoid places with wifi.
- 4 I think it's harder to make new friends the older you get.
 - a But then again, it's not impossible.
 - b And yet, it's not something you can do easily.
- 5 Paper books seem to be old-fashioned to me these days.
 - a Given that, paper books are still read by lots of people.
 - b Despite that, they're still popular with a lot of people.

Vocabulary

Voting and elections

4 Replace the words in bold with the words/phrases in the box.

coalition implement nominated a recount
re-elected referendum

- 1 Every major political party has **chosen** _____ a person for each area.
- 2 The losing party has demanded **calculating the number of votes again** _____.
- 3 Benita Smith has been **voted for again** _____ in the local elections.
- 4 The government will hold a second **election to find out opinions** _____ on changes to tax laws.
- 5 Two parties will have to form a **union** _____ to get a majority in government.
- 6 The government have said they will **act upon** _____ the results of the referendum.

5 Choose the correct option a, b, or c.

Unusual facts about elections

In India, there are so many people who need to ¹_____ their vote during the election that polling ²_____ are open for several days over several weeks.

In Australia, voter ³_____ is always high as voting is compulsory. Those who don't vote face a fine.

In the small country of Liechtenstein, referendums are ⁴_____ to decide whether people who have moved to the country can receive citizenship.

In Buffalo, New York, USA, a single vote determined the winner of the House of Representatives. There was a ⁵_____ and the winner was given slightly more votes.

In Sparta in Ancient Greece, the ⁶_____ system for the assembly involved shouting. People who wished to join would stand up and people would shout if they thought they were worthy. The people with the loudest shouts got in.

New Zealand was the first place to offer all women the right to vote. Prior to 1893, women had no ⁷_____ in what happened in politics.

In the 19th century in the UK, the elected prime minister was just 21. His main rival was just 19 when he was first ⁸_____ and then elected.

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|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 a make | b cast | c take |
| 2 a stations | b venues | c sites |
| 3 a takeout | b dropout | c turnout |
| 4 a performed | b taken | c held |
| 5 a re-election | b recount | c retake |
| 6 a electoral | b elective | c selection |
| 7 a say | b opinion | c view |
| 8 a nominated | b submitted | c presented |