

AGREEMENT/DISAGREEMENT VS ADVANTAGE/DISADVANTAGE



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I like it,

Picture 1.

This noodle is so
yummy, do you agree?



Picture 2.

This soup seems delicious.
I think I like it



Picture 3



No, don't put it into
my bowl. I disagree

Reading Focus

We Are Colorful

Everybody is different. Sometimes we find people who use the red blouse or blue. They have different opinion to use different clothes with different colors. Sometimes you want to say whether you agree or disagree about the colors and you want to show or express your opinion.

Examples: Amir : I like chocolate.

Andi : I like blue but I don't like chocolate.

Amir : I disagree. I don't like blue.

If you like something you can say it and support the statement by saying 'I agree' or if you don't like you can say 'I disagree.'

What is an agreement?



Agreement is a statement to say that you like something. If you like something you can say it and support the statement by saying 'I agree.'

There are some expressions to show your agreement:

I agree
I agree with you
You are right.
That's the point.
I will say that.
I feel the same way about



What about
'disagreement?'

There some expressions about disagreement

I don't agree ...
I don't agree with you.
I don't think so.
That's not what I think.
I couldn't agree with you less
I'm not sure.
Probably not.

Offering an opinion can be difficult when it is not in your first language. You may know exactly what you want to say in your native tongue, but are unsure of how to express your views in English. You may also worry that your words will not come out properly or that you might hurt someone's feelings by being too forward. Although it is easier to sit back and say nothing at all, you will become bored or frustrated if all you can do is nod your head yes or shake your head no, especially if you have a strong opinion about something.

Why should we agree/disagree?

a. We are different.

Even we are twins, we have different. We have different emotion to do everything we like. Examples :

- I like reading.
- My sister likes singing.
- My cousin likes painting.
- My dad likes driving a car.
- My mother likes cooking.

b. We are creative.

Human is different than animals. We have brain that we can use to think about everything. We want to try something new. We like to create something.

Examples :

- A singer always wants to sing a new song.
- A poet always wants to write a poet.
- A teacher always wants to make a program to teach.
- A scientist always wants to create a new experiment
- A guitarist always wants to play a new song.

1. singer



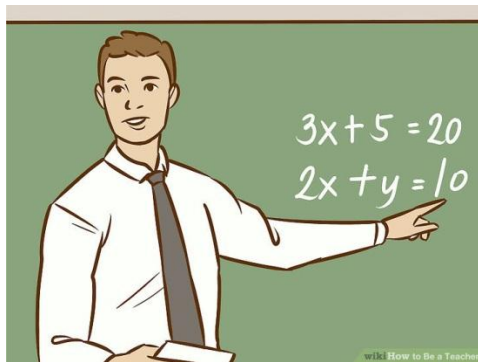
Do you like a singer?
I (like/dislike)
because _____

2. poet



Do you like a poet?
I (like/dislike)
because _____

3. teacher



Do you like a teacher?
I (like/dislike)
because _____

4. scientist



Do you like a scientist?
I (like/dislike)
because _____

5. guitarist



Do you like a guitarist?
I (like/dislike) because _____

If you agree or disagree about something, you will take an advantage or disadvantage of your opinion. What is an advantage?

1. something (such as a good position or condition) that helps to make someone or something better or more likely to succeed than others.
2. a good or desirable quality or feature
3. benefit or gain

For examples:

1. Widya is a teller. She likes her job.
She agrees to work at the bank.
From this, she gets the benefit or takes an advantage of knowing many things about bank.
2. Soni is a computer analyst.
He can operate and fix computer.
From his work, he takes an advantage of browsing and making many programs.
3. John is a scientist.
Every day he always makes some experiments.
From his work, he takes an advantage of trying many things and sometimes he can find some new inventions.

What is an advantage? Based on Cambridge Dictionary:

- a. a condition or situation that causes problems, especially one that causes something or someone to be less successful than other things or people.

Example:

- One disadvantage of living in the town is the lack of safe places for children to play.

- b. at a disadvantage :

in a situation in which you are less likely to succeed than others:

- He's at a disadvantage being so shy.
- This new law places/puts poorer families at a distinct disadvantage.

- c. to cause someone or something to be less successful than most other people or things:

Teachers claim such measures could unfairly disadvantage ethnic minorities.

- d. something that makes a successful result less likely, esp. less likely for you than it is for others:

There are disadvantages to living in a rural area.

- e. at a disadvantage

If you are at a disadvantage, you are in a situation in which you are less likely to succeed than others:

She felt that being so young put her at a disadvantage for the executive position.

There are some useful expressions:

a. To introduce an advantage

The main advantage of
One advantage of
One major advantage of
It is often believed that
The most important advantage of
An additional advantage of
It is often suggested that
A further advantage of

Examples :

One of the main advantages of using computer is the fact that you can save.

One major advantage of living in a foreign country is that you have better economic conditions

b. Disadvantage

The main disadvantage of
One disadvantage of
Another disadvantage of
The most important drawback of
One major disadvantage of
An additional disadvantage of

How to talk about?

To say 'yes' or agree is easier than to say 'no' or disagree because it will cause an advantage or disadvantage. You have to pay attention to these rules:

1. Pay attention to people around you

If you want to talk or give an opinion, you have to know whether the people around you are ready to accept your opinion or not. If not, it's better not to talk

2. Tell your opinion in a polite manner.

If you want to tell your opinion, it should start with these sentences

Excuse me,

May I

If you don't mind

Sorry, can I say something?

3. Don't forget to give a positive comment after you have told your opinion.

Thank you for giving me a chance to speak.

Thanks for this opportunity

Nice to talk to you

Nice conversation.

Answer these questions based on the text above!

1. What does this sentence mean 'we are colorful'?

- (A). We have different clothes.
- (B). We have different color.
- (C). We have different opinion.
- (D). We have different agreement

2. What will you do if you like something?

- (A). Say it and support your statement.
- (B). Sing it and go away.
- (C). Tell it and hide it.
- (D). Keep it and support it.

3. What is an agreement?
 - (A). It is a statement to tell about what's on your mind.
 - (B). It is a statement to keep something.
 - (C). It is a statement to express that you like something.
 - (D). It is a statement to show your heart.
4. Why should you support your agreement?
 - (A). To reveal your secret.
 - (B). To make people agree with you.
 - (C). To influence people to hate you.
 - (D). To get the information.
5. If you agree with someone's opinion, you will say....
 - (A). I am with you.
 - (B). I hate you.
 - (C). I keep it.
 - (D). I am on my way.
6. Is it difficult to offer an opinion in English? Why?
 - (A). Yes, it is an easy thing, because it is just a piece of cake.
 - (B). No, it is an awful thing, because it makes me dizzy.
 - (C). Yes, it is difficult, because it is not my first language.
 - (D). Yes it is amazing, because it makes me feel so cool.
7. "*You may also worry that your words will not come out properly.*" What does the statement mean?
 - (A). You should pay attention to the words you will tell.
 - (B). You worry whether the words can be understood or not.
 - (C). You are afraid of hurting someone.
 - (D). You are sick of the statement.
8. Why should we agree/disagree? Because ...
 - (A). we are people
 - (B). we are colorful
 - (C). we are living creatures
 - (D). we are alive
9. "*Human is different than animals.*" What does the statement mean?
 - (A). We can use our brain to think.
 - (B). We can use our body to struggle.
 - (C). We can use our mind to keep the information.
 - (D). We can use our face to smile.
10. What is an advantage?
 - (A). a condition that causes something useful.
 - (B). a condition that makes something serious.
 - (C). a condition that gets a problems.
 - (D). a condition that draws a picture.

Speaking Focus

1. At a bank

- Bank Teller : Can I help you?
Antonio : Yes, I'd like to deposit this check.
Bank Teller : Please fill out a deposit slip and be sure to endorse the check on the back.
Antonio : Here you are. I've already filled out a slip and signed the check. I'd also like to cash this other check.
Bank Teller : Sure, I can help you with that. Here you are. Here's a receipt for your deposit and I've cashed your check. Let me count out your \$100: 20, 40, 60, 80, 100.
Antonio : Thanks. Could I also check my bank balance for my other account?
Bank Teller : No problem. You just have to swipe your ATM card and enter your PIN. It looks like you have a balance of \$1,752. Will that be all?
Antonio : Oh, I have that much? I'd like to withdraw \$80.
Bank Teller : All right. You'll need to fill out a withdrawal slip. Why don't you step aside while you do that so I can help the next customer, and when you're done, come back to this window and I'll help you.
Antonio : Okay, I'll do that. And if I want to transfer money between accounts?
Bank Teller : You'll need to fill out a withdrawal slip for the first account and a deposit slip for the second.
Antonio : Got it. This might take a while.
Bank Teller : No problem, sir. We're here all day – at least until 5:00.

<https://secure3.eslpod.com/podcast/esl-podcast-885-talking-to-a-bank-teller/>

2. In the hospital

- Patient : I need a good bed. This bed is not comfortable for me.
Nurse A : Ok, sir. I will bring another bed. I hope you don't mind waiting for me for a while.
Nurse B : (A minute later). This is the bed, sir.
Patient : Thank you. Would you mind helping me to remove me from the bed.
Nurse B : Sure. Let me help you.
Patient : Ufh... Oh.
Nurse A : Why, sir?
Patient : The mattress is rather hard. I feel I sleep on the rock. I dislike the bed
Nurse B : If you don't mind, you can move to the VIP Room.
Patient : What is the advantage of the VIP Room?
Nurse A : All the facilities are the best.
Patient : Ok, I will call my son to manage all to move to VIP Room.

3. At the Restaurant

Mike : I am thirsty.

Jane : Me too.

Mike : Let's go to the restaurant in front of the street.

Jane : That's a good idea.

(Go to the restaurant)

Waiter : Please sir! May I know your order?

Mike : I need a glass of milkshake. How about you, Jane?

Jane : Give me a glass of orange juice.

Waiter : Other?

Mike : A bowl of noodle. And you?

Jane : A plate of salad.

Mike : Ok, I think that's all. Please don't let us wait for a long time.

Waiter : Ok, sir.

Mike : Thank you.

Waiter : My pleasure. (Leave Mike and Jane).

Mike : Why don't you order other food, Jane, Just a plate of salad.
Are you on diet?

Jane : Yes, I think I have to eat more vegetable than meat.

Mike : What is the advantage of your diet?

Jane : Eat too much meat can make me fat.

Mike : I disagree with you.

Jane : Why? What is the disadvantage of eating vegetable?

Mike : If you just eat vegetable, you will lack of protein. Your body needs protein to build and repair tissues. You also use protein to make enzymes, hormones and other body chemicals. It is important to build block of bones, muscles, cartilage, skin and blood.

Jane : Oh.

Mike : So, sometimes you may eat meat.

Jane : Thank you, for your advice.

Mike : You're welcome.

From these three conversations, answer these questions!

1. What are the advantages of going to the bank?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

2. What are the advantages of taking the VIP Room?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

3. What are the disadvantages of not eating meat?

a. _____

- b. _____
c. _____

4. What is the advantage of doing diet?

Writing Focus

Agree or Disagree Essay Prompt Tips (www.cisl.edu)

Your essay should have the following:

- Clear paragraphs (an introduction, body, and conclusion)
- A clearly defined argument
- Examples to support your argument
- Well constructed sentences with varied structures
- Conjunctions

Clear paragraphs (an introduction, body, and conclusion)

Do you know how to write well constructed paragraphs?

A paragraph should have a topic sentence that clearly states the main idea of the paragraph. Every sentence in the paragraph should support this main idea through use of examples or supporting evidence. Your CISL instructor will teach you all of the tips and tricks to writing great introduction, body, and conclusion paragraphs!

A clearly defined argument

With this prompt, you are being asked to agree or disagree. Make sure that you do so! Your essay needs to have a clear thesis statement which includes your opinion. Examples to support your argument

Why do you feel the way you do? Don't be afraid to use your own examples and life experiences: these are valuable!

Well constructed sentences with varied structures

The same sentence structure for the entire paragraph can be boring: mix it up by using things like the Passive Voice or various English tenses to avoid this monotony.

- Simple Present
- Simple Past
- Simple Future
- Present Continuous
- Past Continuous
- Future Continuous
- Present Perfect
- Present Perfect Continuous
- Future Perfect
- Future Perfect Continuous

Conjunctions

Conjunctions enhance your writing in many ways. Conjunctions such as moreover,

additionally, therefore, and in summary help to guide the reader through your essay, and because they can join sentences together, conjunctions help form longer, more varied sentence structures (see above).

Prompt 1:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “Technology has changed the way we communicate, but not for the better.”

Prompt 2:

“Tourism negatively affects cities more than it positively affects them.” Do you agree or disagree?

Prompt 3:

“The internet has made cheating much easier for students, and students of today actually learn less than students who learned before the internet.” Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Prompt 4:

“The best way to get to know a culture is through its food.” Do you agree or disagree?

**Advantage/Disadvantage
(www.aquascript.com)**

In advantage/disadvantage style essays, you will need to consider:

The pros and cons (of something)

The costs and benefits (of something)

The negative and/or positive effects (of something)

The following exam prompt, suggested structure and sample answer is targeted to those whose level of English is pre-intermediate:

Foreign travel is becoming increasingly easy for more and more people globally. While there are benefits arising from international tourism, there are also negative effects.

In your opinion, what are some of the advantages and disadvantages of international tourism?

Subject area = Environment/Transportation/Culture

Statement reworded = “The number of people traveling overseas for their holidays is increasing”

Opinion sentence = “Overall, I think international tourism has more advantages than disadvantages.”

The Introduction paragraph

Good introductions need to have three parts. This means they must have three or more sentences:

1. General background information (on the subject)

2. An opinion sentence (where you state your opinion on the specific subject of the prompt)

3. Statement (where you tell the reader what you are going to write about)

Example :

These days, because of modern technology such as the internet and airlines more and more people are traveling overseas for their holidays. On balance, I think that international tourism has more benefits compared to costs. In this essay I will focus on a key advantage, it is positive for the economy, and a major disadvantage, it is negative for the economy.

The Body paragraphs

In advantage/disadvantage style opinion-based essays, you will need to focus on the advantages and/or disadvantages that result from the subject. For each advantage/disadvantage you write about, you will need a separate paragraph. Each body paragraph must have at least three parts (and therefore have three or more sentences):

1. Topic sentence (summarize the advantage/disadvantage you will write about in this paragraph)

2. Explanation; explain the advantage/disadvantage and give more details about it

3. Example; provide one or more examples to illustrate the advantage/disadvantage

Example :

Firstly I will discuss the main advantage of international tourism, it benefits the economy of the countries where tourists visit. I will explain, when tourists visit a foreign country, they stay in hotels and eat in restaurants and buy lots of things. This gives the country money and also creates jobs. For instance, many Egyptian people work in hotels and sell things to tourists, they would not have these jobs if tourists did not travel to Egypt.

Now I will look at the main negative effect of international tourism. The disadvantage of this is for the environment. When people visit other countries they often go on airplanes and this leads to pollution and global warming. For example, these days millions of people travel by plane to another country. In the past people traveled by bus or train.

The Conclusion paragraph

The conclusion paragraph needs to summarize the subject of the essay, your opinion and, the the advantages/disadvantages you chose to write about. It also needs to provide some recommendations/suggestions. Therefore, it must have three (or more) sentences:

1. Summarize what the essay was about

2. Re-state your opinion and summarize the advantages/disadvantages you discussed (past tense)

3. Provide some suggestions that are related to the subject/your opinion

To sum up. this essay focused on the subject of the growing numbers of tourists travelling around the world. I think that overall there are more advantages of this compared to the disadvantages. I wrote about two effect of this, one advantage it benefits the economy and one disadvantage, it can be harmful for the environment. Therefore, I suggest that families continue to travel overseas, but not too many times each year, this will reduce the amount of pollution from airplanes.