



# Module 6

Discussion

Part 1



In this part of the exam, you need to agree or disagree with your partner about a certain topic.

# Discussion



Who is your **partner**?

It's usually another 'student' or a so called '**candidate**' who takes the same speaking exam as you.

There are **two of you** in the **same room** with the same examiners.

The **Discussion** is usually **the last part** of the speaking exam and you have to **talk to each other** to come to a shared conclusion.

# Discussion



In this part of the exam, you need to show that you can **communicate** with another person.

Yes, **COMMUNICATE**.

This means, you have to **react** to what the other person tells you. You can **agree** with them, or **disagree**, or **give your opinion** or **ask about their opinion**.



The task is usually like this:

# Discussion



For the final part of the test, you are going to talk to each other about a topic the examiner will give you.

First make a spoken list of four or five things.

Then, when you have done that, discuss which one is the best / most important.

Remember to give reasons for what you say.

You have 3 minutes altogether to try and agree.

# Discussion

**What are some of the main causes of disagreement between parents and children?**

1. staying out late
2. ...
3. ...
4. ...



# Discussion



You can see that you have to come up with **4 or 5 ideas** all together.

However, the examiner is not really interested in your wonderful ideas.

They **focus** on the **language** and **style** you use to make your point.

# Discussion



It's really **easy to prepare** for this part of the exam if you **revise** what you know about

- agreeing
- disagreeing
- interrupting politely
- giving reasons for decisions.



Study whole sentences,  
not single words.  
But you know this already.

# Discussion



You have to make sure you **let your partner speak**, too.

Try to **speak** about **50%** of the time.

If you see, your partner isn't willing to speak, **ask smart questions** so that they can also take part in the conversation.

In this way, you'll get **higher points**.

# How to start the Discussion task?

In the first part of the *Discussion* task, it's important to come up with **a number of ideas** related to the main question.

You also need to **give reasons** for your choices.





Let's practise this for a short time.



# What is BRAINSTORMING?

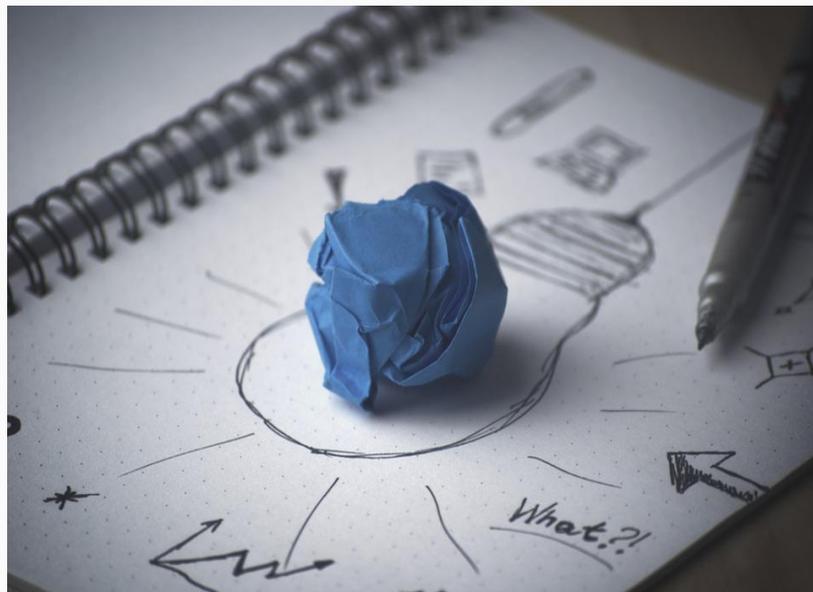


## BRAINSTORMING

a technique of

- solving specific problems,
- stimulating creative thinking
- developing new ideas

by **spontaneous** participation in discussion.





Now try to brainstorm some ideas about the exam question mentioned above.

# How to start the Discussion task?



**What are some of the main causes of disagreement between parents and children?**

1. staying out late...

# How to start the Discussion task?



1. staying out late
2. messy room
3. not doing the homework
4. not helping doing the housework
5. talking back to the parents
6. surfing the Internet all the time
7. not communicating enough with parents
8. falling behind with their studies and getting bad marks.



See? In just one minute we could think of twice as many ideas than you really need.

# Giving reasons

Now look at the  
first 4 of the ideas.

Study how you should  
**give reasons** for your ideas.



# Giving reasons



**What are some of the main causes of disagreement between parents and children?**

**1.**

*'In my opinion, **staying out late** is a very important cause of disagreement between parents and children because nowadays children come home late at night and they don't get enough sleep.'*

# Giving reasons



**What are some of the main causes of disagreement between parents and children?**

**2.**

*'Other important cause of disagreement is that children's **bedrooms are often messy** and their mothers always ask them to clean up, but they never do so because they are so fond of pushing buttons on smartphones and tablets. '*

# Giving reasons



**What are some of the main causes of disagreement between parents and children?**

**3-4.**

*'And of course everything is more important than **doing the homework** or the **housework**. Nowadays children watch too much TV and they chat with their friends instead of studying or helping at home.'*



The reasons I gave are rather **obvious** - everybody knows them.

But if you give reasons like this, your ideas will be **clear** for everybody.



# Discussion - ready-made phrases

During the *Discussion* task, try to use as many **ready-made phrases** as possible in order to get higher points and of course **to be more effective.**

Let's practise these expressions together.

## Task 1

Put each phrase into the correct column.  
I have given you **one example** for each category.

# Discussion

# Task 1



**1. Giving your opinion**

*In my opinion, ...*

**2. Structuring**

*Shall we move on to the next point?*

**3. Clarification**

*So you mean...*

**4. Turn-taking**

*Sorry to interrupt you, but...*

**5. Asking for an opinion**

*What do you think about...?*



What's your opinion of...?



## What category is it?

1. Giving your opinion
2. Structuring
3. Clarification
4. Turn-taking
5. Asking for an opinion



# *Asking for an opinion*



Could you explain that,  
please?



## What category is it?

1. Giving your opinion
2. Structuring
3. Clarification
4. Turn-taking
5. Asking for an opinion



# *Clarification*



I definitely think that...



## What category is it?

1. Giving your opinion
2. Structuring
3. Clarification
4. Turn-taking
5. Asking for an opinion



# *Giving your opinion*



I'd just like to say that...



## What category is it?

1. Giving your opinion
2. Structuring
3. Clarification
4. Turn-taking
5. Asking for an opinion



# *Turn-taking*



Let's start with...



## What category is it?

1. Giving your opinion
2. Structuring
3. Clarification
4. Turn-taking
5. Asking for an opinion



# *Structuring*



Personally, I believe...



## What category is it?

1. Giving your opinion
2. Structuring
3. Clarification
4. Turn-taking
5. Asking for an opinion



# *Giving your opinion*



Can I just add something  
here?



## What category is it?

1. Giving your opinion
2. Structuring
3. Clarification
4. Turn-taking
5. Asking for an opinion



# *Turn-taking*



Don't you agree that...?



## What category is it?

1. Giving your opinion
2. Structuring
3. Clarification
4. Turn-taking
5. Asking for an opinion



# *Asking for opinion*



Are you saying that...?



## What category is it?

1. Giving your opinion
2. Structuring
3. Clarification
4. Turn-taking
5. Asking for an opinion



# *Clarification*



Let's try and agree.



## What category is it?

1. Giving your opinion
2. Structuring
3. Clarification
4. Turn-taking
5. Asking for an opinion



# *Structuring*

# Ready-made phrases

## **Giving your opinion**

In my opinion, ...

I definitely think that...

Personally, I believe...

# Ready-made phrases



## Structuring

Shall we move on to the next point?

Let's start with...

Let's try and agree.

# Ready-made phrases



## Clarification

So you mean...

Could you explain that, please?

Are you saying that...?

# Ready-made phrases



## Turn-taking

Sorry to interrupt you, but...

I'd just like to say that...

Can I just add something here?

# Ready-made phrases



## Asking for an opinion

What do you think about...?

What's your opinion of...?

Don't you agree that...?



Study these sentences and  
see you in Part 2.

# This is the end of Part 1

For more practice, please start *Discussion Part 2* as soon as you have another 20 minutes.

Plus, you can always turn to Functions for more practice.

**See you again in  
Part 2.**

