

GBS Day42

Fill in the blanks.

Answer Key: 1. jeered 2. disparity 3. deliberated

Listening

What's the difference between 'debate' and 'discussion'?

A discussion focuses on a specific topic with (assertions) which are made by plural people trying to establish the (validity) of the topic. So normally at company meetings discussions take place. A debate is a formal contest where the 'yes' and 'no' sides of a (proposition) are (advocated) by opposing speakers. A debate is combative and one side must (ultimately) win. A discussion is held not as a competition but on equal (footing).

Writing

Answer key:

1. What do you think about . . . ?
2. I'd like to have your point of view about . . .
3. Perhaps you can tell us something about . . .
4. Do you have any opinion on . . . ?
5. What are your views about . . . ?

➤ Which phrases (1 – 10) can be used . . .

Stating opinion

1. I think that . . .
2. I definitely think that . . .
3. I'm inclined to think that . . .
4. It seems to me that . . .
5. I understand that . . .
6. I feel strongly that . . .
7. I'm convinced that . . .
8. My view/ idea/ opinion/ thinking is that . . .
9. As I see it . . .
10. In my opinion/ view . . .

Answer key:

a 1, 8, 9, 10

b 2, 6, 7,

c 3, 4, 5,

Listening

In a discussion, it is seen as (rude) and (inconsiderate) to interrupt a speaker. But sometimes if you want to (contribute) or the conversation is (wandering) off-topic, you feel you should interrupt. Learning to interrupt politely requires (tact) and (skill).

Here's how to do it. First of all, (use) body language to let the speaker know that you have something to say. Make eye contact and he/she may (recognize) that you want to speak. If you can't get the speaker's attention, raise your hand, or clear your (throat). Secondly, avoid interrupting (abruptly). If there is a (lull) in the conversation, that is your chance.

1. Can I come to that later?
2. Could I just comment on that?

3. Sorry, please let me finish
4. Sorry to interrupt you but . . .
5. Could I come in here?
6. Can I just say something about that?
7. Hold on a moment, please. We'll come back to you soon.
8. Yes, go ahead.
9. I apologize for interrupting but . . .
10. Just a moment, please. I promise we'll come right back to you.
11. Could I make a point here?
12. Sorry to hold the meeting up but . . .

Answer key:

a 4, 12

b 9

c 2, 5, 6, 11

d 8

e 1, 3, 7, 10

Match each definition (A – E) with today's vocabulary word (1 – 5)

Answer Key:

A- 3; B- 4; C-1; D-5; E-2;

Fill in the blanks.

Answer Key: 1. assertion 2. finesse 3. lull 4. interjected 5. advocated