

# Current Issues

Theme:  
Money, Ethics, and Social  
Responsibility



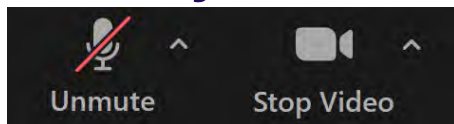
# Before we start, please make sure...

- ✓ your name on Zoom is clear (use Latin letters)
- ✓ your camera is on and mic is off (unmute when needed)
- ✓ you are in a quiet area that helps you focus
- ✓ you have a notebook or a note app ready to take notes

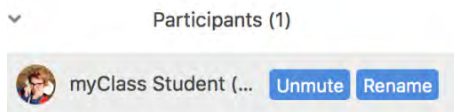


# Zoom features

Check your audio and video settings

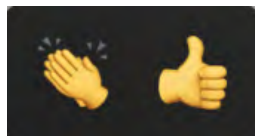
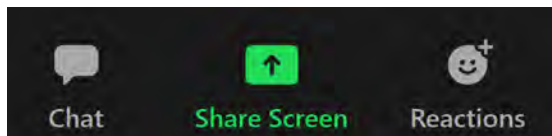


Use Latin letters for your name

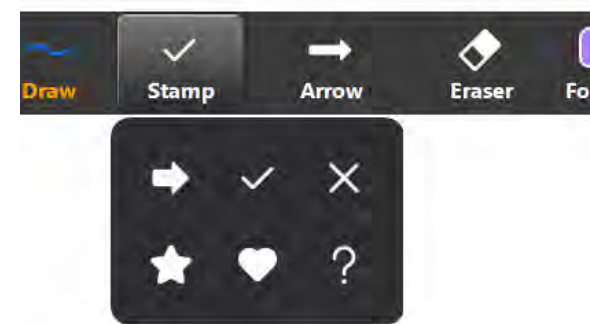
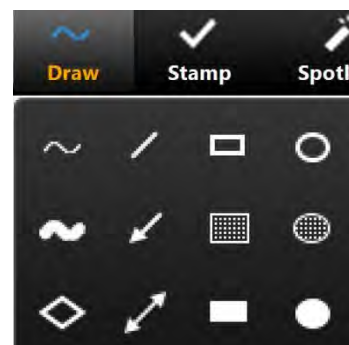


Ask questions in the Chat or use Reactions

Share Screen when the teacher asks



Use Annotate when a screen is shared

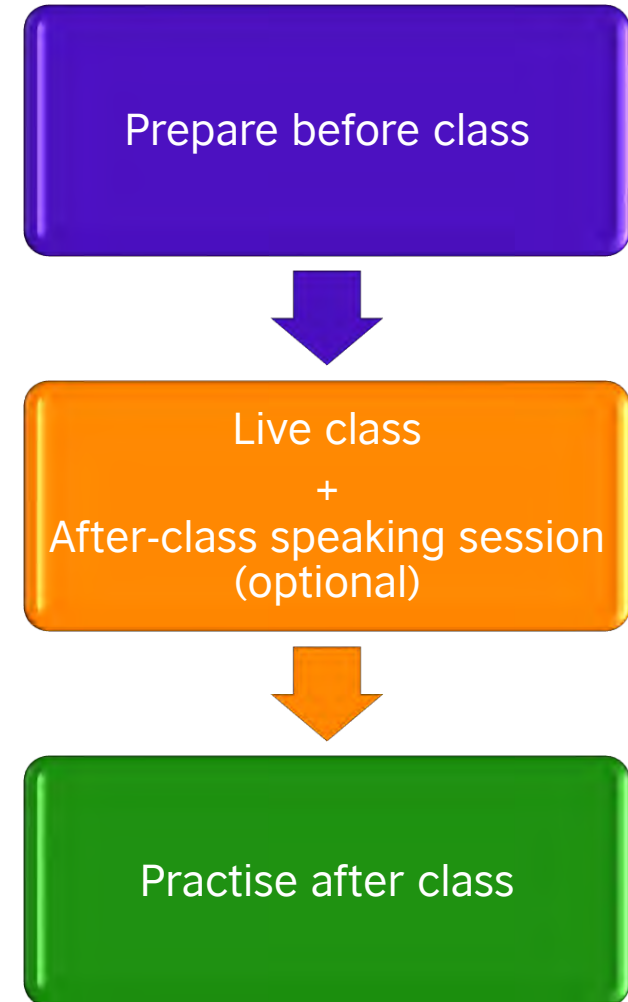


Use Save to make screenshots

# Welcome to English Online

## How does it work?

You need to complete all three parts to get the most out of English Online.



# After-class speaking session

Stay back after class for 5 or 10 minutes to talk to your classmates from around the world.

**This extra speaking practice will help you...**

- improve your conversation skills
- practise using language learnt in class
- support and help your fellow students
- practise using English in a natural context
- become a part of a global learning community



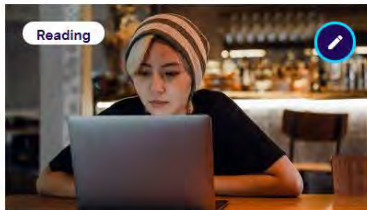
After-class  
speaking  
sessions

# Lesson objectives

- ❑ take part in an informal debate on current ethical issues.
- ❑ look at how to construct arguments and counter arguments
- ❑ choose topics to discuss, brainstorm ideas and debate with a partner.
- ❑ explore the language needed to debate a topic and express your opinions.

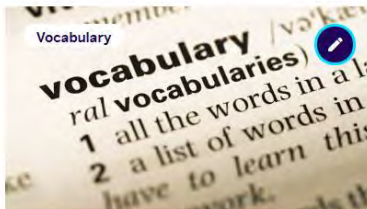
# Pre-lesson activities

## Prepare



Article on informal debates

## Practise



Debate-related vocabulary



Debating collocations



# Lead-in

- Video games are a waste of time.
- Smartphones have made our lives easier.
- Animals shouldn't be used for medical research.
- Children need to learn how to use gadgets at an early age.
- Education is outdated and it is not essential to do well in life





# Language focus

Look at the phrases. Do you know their functions?

- I'm sorry to interrupt, but ... As far as I'm concerned ... But there's another aspect to this. That's all very interesting, but ... From my point of view ... I can see what you're saying, but ... If I could just come in here ... The real point is ... I don't think that's really the point. I doubt very much that ... I'm afraid I don't see it like that. Excuse me, but ... I'm in favour of ...
- The fact is ... My view is that ... I'm afraid I have to stop you there. Moving on to ... So you're saying ...? That argument doesn't make sense. That's one way to look at it, but ... Could I just say something here? The truth of the matter is actually ... To my mind ... I couldn't disagree more. I take your point, but ...

# Language focus

Giving your opinion	Showing that you're listening	Disagreeing / countering	Continuing your argument	Interrupting
<i>My view is that ...</i>	<i>I take your point, but ...</i>	<i>I don't think that's really the point.</i>	<i>But there's another aspect to this.</i>	<i>I'm sorry to interrupt, but ...</i>
<i>I'm in favour of ...</i>	<i>That's all very interesting, but ...</i>	<i>That argument doesn't make sense.</i>	<i>The truth of the matter is actually ...</i>	<i>Excuse me, but ...</i>
<i>As far as I'm concerned ...</i>	<i>I can see what you're saying but ...</i>	<i>I doubt very much that ...</i>	<i>The fact is ...</i>	<i>I'm afraid I have to stop you there.</i>
<i>To my mind ...</i>	<i>So you're saying ...?</i>	<i>I couldn't disagree more.</i>	<i>The real point is ...</i>	<i>Could I just say something here?</i>
<i>From my point of view ...</i>	<i>That's one way to look at it, but ...</i>	<i>I'm afraid I don't see it like that.</i>	<i>Moving on to ...</i>	<i>If I could just come in here ...</i>

# Language focus Children need to learn how to use gadgets at an early age.

Giving your opinion	Showing that you're listening	Disagreeing / countering	Continuing your argument	Interrupting
<i>My view is that ...</i>	<i>I take your point, but ...</i>	<i>I don't think that's really the point.</i>	<i>But there's another aspect to this.</i>	<i>I'm sorry to interrupt, but ...</i>
<i>I'm in favour of ...</i>	<i>That's all very interesting, but ...</i>	<i>That argument doesn't make sense.</i>	<i>The truth of the matter is actually ...</i>	<i>Excuse me, but ...</i>
<i>As far as I'm concerned ...</i>	<i>I can see what you're saying but ...</i>	<i>I doubt very much that ...</i>	<i>The fact is ...</i>	<i>I'm afraid I have to stop you there.</i>
<i>To my mind ...</i>	<i>So you're saying ...?</i>	<i>I couldn't disagree more.</i>	<i>The real point is ...</i>	<i>Could I just say something here?</i>
<i>From my point of view ...</i>	<i>That's one way to look at it, but ...</i>	<i>I'm afraid I don't see it like that.</i>	<i>Moving on to ...</i>	<i>If I could just come in here ...</i>

# Pre-task

Brainstorm arguments for and against the topics we talked about at the beginning of the lesson.

- Video games are a waste of time.
- Smartphones have made our lives easier.
- Animal shouldn't be used for medical research.
- Children need to learn how to use gadgets at an early age.
- Education is outdated and it is not essential to do well in life.



## Pre-task 2

Now use the phrases to practice presenting your argument.

Giving your opinion	Showing that you're listening	Disagreeing / countering	Continuing your argument	Interrupting
<i>My view is that ...</i>	<i>I take your point, but ...</i>	<i>I don't think that's really the point.</i>	<i>But there's another aspect to this.</i>	<i>I'm sorry to interrupt, but ...</i>
<i>I'm in favour of ...</i>	<i>That's all very interesting, but ...</i>	<i>That argument doesn't make sense.</i>	<i>The truth of the matter is actually ...</i>	<i>Excuse me, but ...</i>
<i>As far as I'm concerned ...</i>	<i>I can see what you're saying but ...</i>	<i>I doubt very much that ...</i>	<i>The fact is ...</i>	<i>I'm afraid I have to stop you there.</i>
<i>To my mind ...</i>	<i>So you're saying ...?</i>	<i>I couldn't disagree more.</i>	<i>The real point is ...</i>	<i>Could I just say something here?</i>
<i>From my point of view ...</i>	<i>That's one way to look at it, but ...</i>	<i>I'm afraid I don't see it like that.</i>	<i>Moving on to ...</i>	<i>If I could just come in here ...</i>

# Task

- Choose a topic from the previous activities.
- How strongly do you agree with the statement?
- Group A for
- Group B against
- Work with your group to prepare your arguments.
- Debate the topic with an opponent from the other team
- Report back to the class. Did you convince your partner? Did you change your mind about any aspects of the topic?

- Video games are a waste of time.
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- Education is outdated and it is not essential to do well in life.



# Feedback

I can't agree with you more! I am a mum of a boy, who was the only one, not being filmed during the playground play. As all other parents did it, my son felt as if I was not paying as much attention.

As far as I am concerned children should learn how to use digital gadgets so they can integrate better, quicker and become more adaptive to the changing environment.

I am in favour of teaching children to use technology as soon as possible and in great depth.

# Review

What have you learned from today's lesson?

What did you find interesting/not interesting?

What do you need more practice with?

Did you participate fully?

Did you achieve your aims for this lesson?

# What's next?

**Book my next lesson with English Online:**

(Time and date of Teacher's next lesson here)

**Complete the Progress activities on the English Online website.**

# After-class speaking session

You can talk about any topic that interests you!

Use these questions as a guide, if needed.

- Do you consider yourself to be an ethical person?
- Would you risk your life to save another person?
- What makes a person act ethically or unethically?
- When is it okay to lie?
- What are some ethical dilemmas you have faced?

For help, contact:

[support.englishonline@britishcouncil.org](mailto:support.englishonline@britishcouncil.org)

## Dos

- ✓ Treat everyone with respect
- ✓ Keep your camera on and participate
- ✓ Let others share ideas too
- ✓ Listen to everyone
- ✓ Click 'Leave' if you cannot stay back

## Don'ts

- ✗ Don't take pictures or record
- ✗ Don't share personal details
- ✗ Don't let your children be visible onscreen