

Expressing cognitive attitudes

COMMUNICATION

LEVEL
Intermediate

NUMBER
EN_BE_3812X

LANGUAGE
English





Goals

- Can identify and recall advanced language structures to express awareness and scepticism.
- Can express degrees of certainty using appropriate language.







Preview and warm-up

- In this lesson you are going to learn some **advanced structures** to talk about **awareness** and **certainty**.



We have absolutely no idea.



Expressing awareness and knowledge

- **Expressing our knowledge** is more than just telling people what we **know**.
- There are certain phrases we can use in English to **preface** what we are saying or to **respond** to other people, **acknowledging** that we **understand**.



I have been **pondering** that question for a long time.



New vocabulary

Which of these phrases do we use to introduce our knowledge, and which do we use when responding to someone else?





Phrases to express awareness and knowledge

- Here are some examples of the phrases.



I have just realised that Heracles and Hercules are the same person.

It has occurred to me that the Romans took most of their heroes from Greece.



To my knowledge, the Norsemen believed the Gods walked among them.

I have the impression that some of the Greek legends are true.





Phrases to respond to someone in expressing awareness

- Here are some examples of phrases that you can use to **agree** with someone.



I thought as much.



I think so.



I know that all too well.

expressing a lack of knowledge

Sometimes it is also necessary to **express** that you **do not know** something. You may also want to express your **scepticism** about something someone else has said.

On the following pages, you will find some phrases to help you do this.



I have serious doubts about that.



I have no clue!



Expressing a lack of knowledge or scepticism



I wonder whether that story is based on fact or fiction.

I'm puzzled about why he would do that.



I never thought John would do that – I'm shocked.

I wouldn't expect most people to know anything about that.





Expressing a lack of knowledge or scepticism



That doesn't seem very convincing. Can you back that up with some facts?

I would hardly have thought that's true.



Actually, I thought the Goddess represented the harvest.

Are you implying that the myths are completely useless?





Fill in the gaps in these dialogues with words from the previous pages

Thor represents War.

Actually, I _____ that he represents thunder.

The Romans copied most of their myths from the Greeks.

I _____ as much.

Leaving the Gods sacrifices was definitely worth it.

I have _____ doubts about that. It was a waste of food.

It has _____ to me that more time should have been spent on the Greek myths at school.



Fill in the gaps to create a dialogue



To my _____, Antarctica holds about 90% of the world's fresh water.

I thought as _____, but I read an article recently which proved me wrong.

I wouldn't _____ most people do.

I had the _____ that most of that water was salty.

Honestly, I have no _____ about it!



Write a dialogue

Write a similar dialogue to the one on the previous page with one of your classmates or teacher. Choose a topic which you know something about and you think your classmate or teacher might not.

Then switch roles.

I have just realised...

I'm puzzled...





Speaking

Answer the questions with your classmates or teacher.



1

Which period of history do you have no clue about?

2

Were you puzzled about anything in the myths of Demeter and Persephone or Thor that you read in previous lessons?

3

Do you have serious doubts about anything which was reported in the news recently?



Expressing certainty and uncertainty

- It is also important to be able to **express** how **certain** you are about something.
- On the next few pages you will see phrases for expressing **certainty** and **uncertainty**.

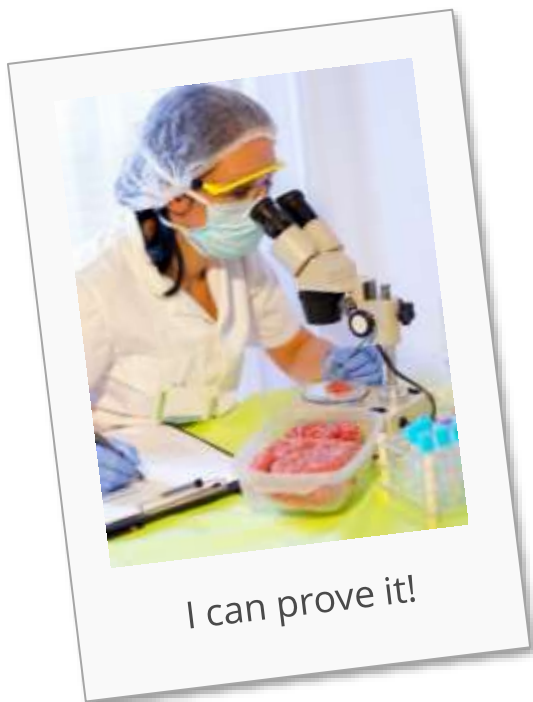


I am **absolutely sure** about this.



Expressing certainty and uncertainty

Here are some phrases used for expressing certainty and uncertainty. Decide which ones say that you are certain, and which ones say you are uncertain.



verifiably

ostensibly

to prove

so-called

supposedly

to ensure

to endorse



Expressing certainty

- Here are some more phrases to use to **express certainty**.



It can be traced back to Greek mythology.

We can **rely on** this source.



I **expect** it to happen very soon.



Expressing uncertainty

- Here are some more phrases to **express uncertainty**.



As far as I know, it was a real historical event.

It is **very unlikely** to be based on fact.





Expressing uncertainty

- Here are some more phrases to **express uncertainty**.



I heard it is **probably** true.

Presumably, the Greek Gods were models for society.



He was **purportedly** a well-known hero, but I've never heard of him.

It **is supposed to be** based on a true story.





Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps with words from the previous pages.

1. As _____ as I know, the story of the Iliad relates to a real historical event.
2. We cannot entirely _____ on sources which were written thousands of years ago.
3. Most of the Greek myths are _____ works of fiction.
4. We can cross reference myths and archaeological sites to _____ that at least some parts are true.
5. The myths were _____ to be models for society.





Complete the sentences

Complete the sentences in your own words.

1. _____ is supposed to be based on a true story.
2. As far as I know, _____ was a real historical event.
3. We can rely on _____ historical sources the most.
4. Presumably, the Norse Gods...



Speaking

Answer these questions with your classmates or teacher.



Which ideals in society nowadays might be traced back to the ancient myths?

Who in history was ostensibly a hero, but also had a dark side?

Are any of the Greek or Roman myths verifiably true?



About you

Are you someone who **believes** things **easily**, or do you only trust **verifiable facts**?

Is the **endorsement** of a newspaper enough for you to **believe** something or do you need something more?



Fill in the gaps to create a dialogue



I'm thinking about starting a new course at the university.

Well, it has _____ to me that I'm not making any progress in my career and I need to do something to help.

That would be great. I _____ whether computer programming is included.

There are _____ to be some good courses anyway. I need to look at the prospectus.

Really? I never _____ you would want to do something like that.

Which course? As far as I _____, some of the courses are free at the local college.

That's very _____ - do you know how popular that kind of course is?



Dialogue

**Create a dialogue similar to the one on the previous page.
Choose a topic which is relevant to you at the moment.
Practise the dialogue with a classmate before performing it.**

As far as I know...



I wonder whether...

**Student A: You have a big
decision to make**

**Student B: You are helping A
make his/her decision**



Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no





Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



If you have time, go over
the most difficult slides again



Answer key

Activity p. 12

thought, thought, serious, occurred

Activity p. 13

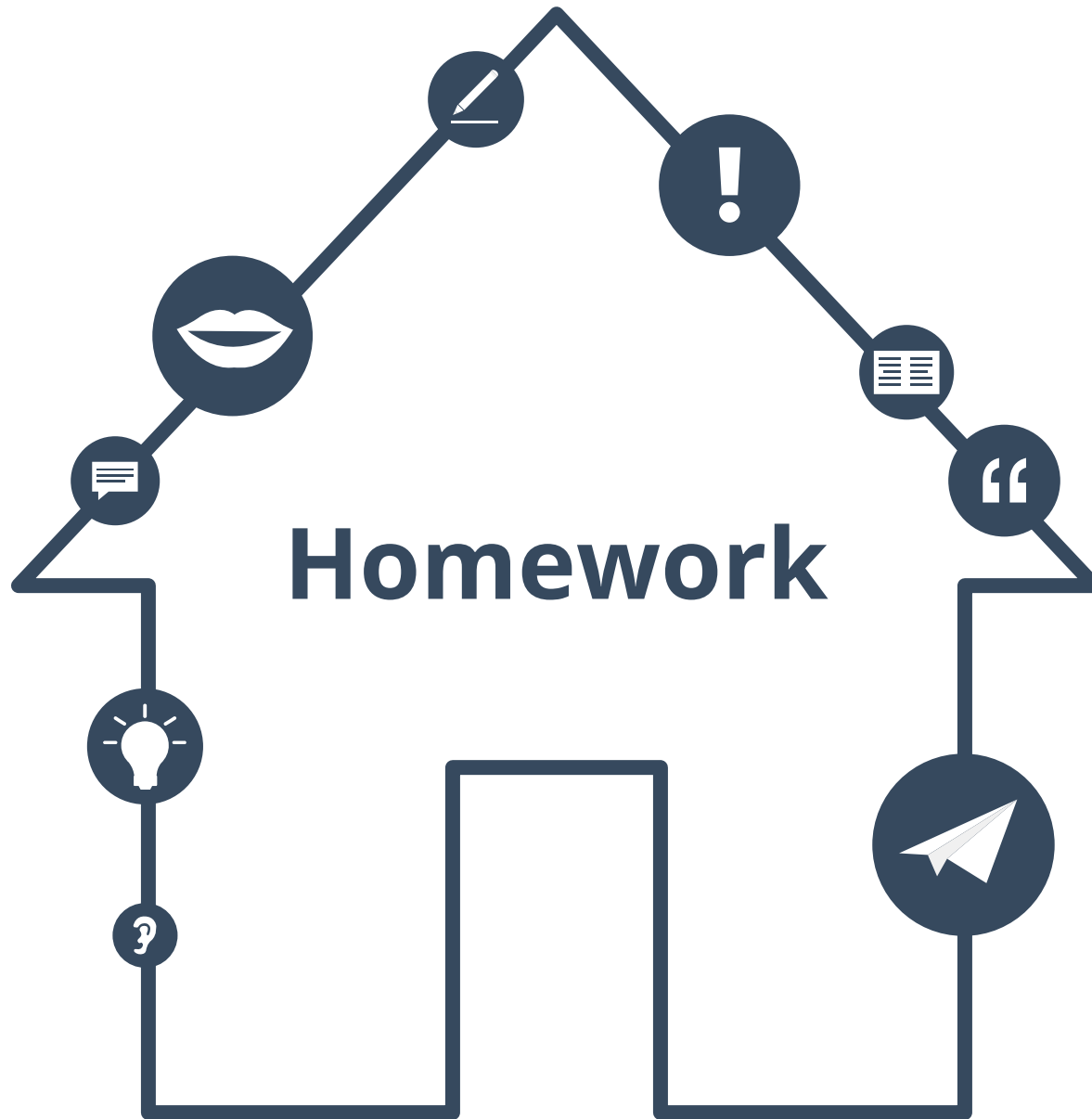
knowledge, impression, much, clue, expect

Activity p. 22

1. far, 2. rely, 3. ostensibly/purportedly, 4. verify/ensure, 5. supposed

Activity p. 26

thought, occurred, know, wonder, unlikely, supposed





Fill in the gaps

1. As _____ as I know, Homer wrote both the Odyssey and the Iliad.
2. Those stories are very _____ to be based in fact; they are fantastical.
3. _____, they are somewhat true.
4. I have the _____ that they are a mixture of myth and fact.
5. I _____ whether they were very different when they were first written down.





Writing

[illegible]



Homework answer key

Activity p. 32

1. far, 2. unlikely, 3. purportedly/ostensibly/supposedly, 4. impression, 5. wonder



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