

COMMUNICATION

Sharing my thoughts and opinions

LEVEL

Intermediate (B1)

NUMBER

EN_B1_1021X

LANGUAGE

English

Learning outcomes

- I can give my opinion and discuss the positives and negatives of a given topic.
- I can justify my opinion using appropriate vocabulary.



Warm-up

Do you enjoy travelling?



What are some of your favourite places to go on holiday?

Time to plan our next trip!

Read the **dialogue** below and **answer the questions** in the red box.

Lisa: I was thinking of taking my sister on a trip to Venice or Barcelona at Easter! What do you think?

Mark: I've heard those cities have a bit of a problem with tourism. It's having quite a negative effect on locals – huge crowds everywhere and massive queues for the museums.

Lisa: But those places benefit from tourism, too. Think of all the positive effects: new jobs, tourists spending money...

Mark: Yeah, I agree up to a point, but these things also have a negative impact. Rent prices go up and lots of apartments end up being used for temporary accommodation. Many locals can't afford to live in the city centre anymore.

Lisa: Hmm, maybe it's better to have a staycation this year.



1. What is Lisa thinking about doing with her sister at Easter?
2. Do Mark and Lisa agree or disagree about what they're discussing? How do you know?

Vocabulary

Venice and
Barcelona **benefit**
from tourism.



Think of all the
positive **effects** of
tourism!



It **affects** locals.
They can't afford to
live in the city
centre.



Do you remember
the reasons why
these cities **benefit**
from tourism,
according to Lisa?

Can you think of
some more **positive**
effects of tourism?
Some **negative**
effects?

Who else is **affected**
by tourism? Why?



Categorise the phrases

Review the phrases from the text and **choose** the correct category.

1

I've heard those cities have a bit of a problem with tourism.

2

It's having quite a negative effect on locals – huge crowds everywhere and queues for the museums.

3

I agree up to a point, but these things also have a negative impact.

4

Think of all the positive effects: new jobs, tourists spending money...

5

But those places benefit from tourism, too.

Giving an opinion

Justifying an opinion



I agree/disagree **up to a point.**

I **couldn't** agree/disagree **more!**

Which of these phrases would you use to **strongly disagree** with someone?

Can you think of a time when you **didn't fully agree** with someone?



How strongly do you agree or disagree?

1 I _____ disagree with you! I don't see your side of the argument at all!

a. partly

b. completely

2 I _____ agree. I understand where you're coming from, but I don't think you're seeing the whole picture.

a. strongly

b. partly

3 I _____ agree with you _____. I think exactly the same thing!

a. couldn't/more

b. couldn't/less

Maybe it's better to have a
staycation this year.



What is a
staycation?

Imagine a classmate
lives in your country.

Where should they
go on **staycation**?



Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps using the words from the red box.

- 1 Many poor countries _____ tourism, as it has a _____ effect on the local economy.
- 2 I _____ up to a point, but I still think tourism has a negative effect on cities.
- 3 We need to consider the environmental _____ of air travel.
- 4 Sorry, I have to _____ with you. I don't think tourism is good!
- 5 Think about all the positive _____ that tourism has: more jobs, tourists spending money...

effects
positive
agree
disagree
benefit from
impact



Do you agree or disagree?

Read the opinions below. **Decide** if you agree or disagree and **give your reasons** why.

Staycations are better than travelling abroad!

I couldn't agree more...

I completely agree...

I partly agree...

People living in Venice should be happy that so many tourists visit the city!

I agree up to a point...

I don't completely agree...

Sorry, I have to disagree...

Tourists shouldn't be able to stay overnight in city centres!

I strongly disagree...

I totally disagree...

I couldn't disagree more...

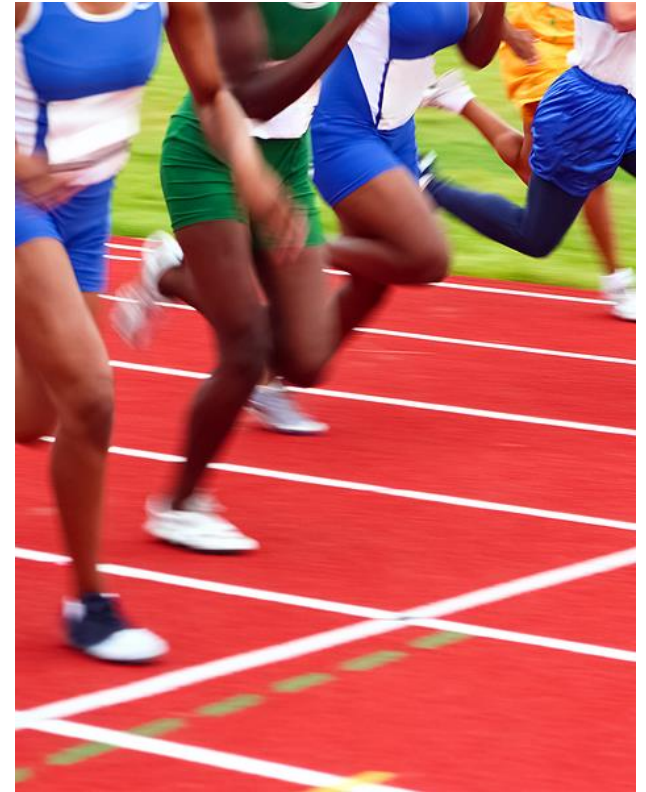


Discuss as a group or in breakout rooms



**Cities only benefit
from hosting the
Olympics.**

**Do you agree or disagree?
Why?**





Discussion

Imagine you live in a city where tourism is becoming a **big problem** for the locals and the government is planning to turn holiday accommodation in the city centre into affordable, long-term housing. For steps 1 and 2, take a moment to make some notes before discussing.

1



Who benefits from this? What could some of the short-term and long-term effects be? Think about the **positive effect** of the project.

Discuss as a group.

2



Could this have a **negative effect**? Who might be negatively affected by the project? Are there alternative ways to solve the problem?

Discuss as a group.

3



Reflect on the points your classmates made during the discussion. Who did you agree with? Who did you not agree with? Were there any interesting perspectives on this topic that surprised you?

Share your thoughts with your classmates.



End of the lesson

Idiom

Point taken!

Meaning: We say this to someone when we understand what they are saying.



Additional practice



Vocabulary review

Review vocabulary from the text on slide 4. Can you put them into sentences?



crowd

positive effect

queue

negative effect

rent prices

to benefit from

locals

museum

to afford

staycation



Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps using the vocabulary items at the side.

- 1 The country's economy benefits from _____ because it creates many _____.
- 2 In cities like Barcelona and Venice, the _____ are tired of long _____ for museums and other famous attractions.
- 3 I've _____ that many locals don't tell tourists about the best beaches – they want to enjoy them without big crowds.
- 4 In popular city-break destinations, the rent prices increase in the city centre. This _____ locals moving to the suburbs.
- 5 Tourism has a significant _____ impact.

environmental
leads to
jobs
tourism
queues
locals
heard



Discuss

What is the impact of tourism on the locals in your community (or country)?



Do you believe that people behave differently when they are tourists? Why?



Complete the sentences

Complete these sentences so that they are true for you.

1 When I go on holidays, I prefer...



2 I love going...



3 _____ – it's such a nightmare!



4 Our local community benefits from...



5 The last staycation I had was...







Unscramble the sentences

1

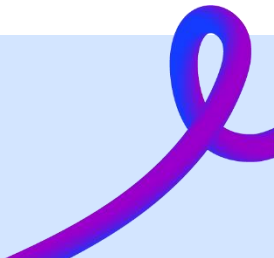
housing	affordable	about	the plans
to build	I've	long-term	heard



2



tourists	opportunities	spend	which
creates	job	many	money





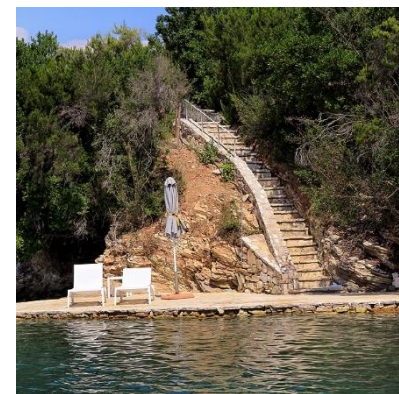
Discuss

“ I used to love coming here because it wasn't well-known. Now it's so crowded with tourists and everything is more expensive!

Have you ever visited the same place more than once? Why (or why not)?

What (if anything) changed?

Do you know of any destinations that fit the description above?





Answer key

P.4:

1. Going to Venice or Barcelona
2. No, they don't agree. Mark says *I agree up to a point, but...*

P.5: Lisa says '...new jobs and tourists spending money.'

P.6:

Giving an opinion: 1, 3, 5 Justifying an opinion: 2, 4

P.8:

1. completely
2. partly
3. couldn't/more

P.9:

A staycation is a vacation spent at home.

P.10:

1. benefit from, positive
2. agree
3. impact
4. disagree
5. effects

P.18

1. Tourism; jobs
2. locals; queues
3. heard
4. leads to
5. environmental

P.21

1. I've heard about the plans to build affordable long-term housing
2. Tourists spend money which creates many job opportunities



Summary

Phrases for stating and justifying your opinion

- When we give an opinion, we usually explain *why* we feel a certain way. We might talk about an article we have read, or something we have heard. We think about the positive and negative aspects of a situation and use these to form our opinion.

effect/affect and impact

- to affect (verb) = to cause a change in someone/something
- effect (noun) = a change in somebody/something; the result of an action or situation
- impact (noun) = a powerful effect

Real-life language

- Staycation = staying in your home country for the holidays



Vocabulary

to affect

locals

impact

environmental

staycation

job opportunities

I've heard...

effect

to benefit (from)

