

DAY 4,
PRESENTED BY,
SURABHI.

MEADOW
pronunciation- 'med oh'

AGENDA

ARTICLES.

1) Definite articles.

2) Indefinite articles.

Expressing Opinions and Preferences Effectively.

Facts, Opinions and preferences.

Activity to understand preferences.

Small talk and social conversations.

ARTICLES

In English grammar, articles are words ("a", "an", and "the") used before nouns to indicate whether the noun is specific or general.

1) Definite Article:

The is the definite article.

It is used to refer to a specific or particular noun that the speaker believes the listener knows or can identify.

2) Indefinite Articles (a, an):

- Used before singular countable nouns that are not specific or known.
- "a" is used before words that start with a consonant sound.
- "an" is used before words that start with a vowel sound.
- Examples: "a book," "an apple," "a dog".

EXAMPLES OF DEFINITE ARTICLE.

Could you close **the** door,
please?

The cat on the
roof is our
neighbour's.

What is **the**
capital of India?

The weather
today is quite
pleasant.

He returned **the**
money he
borrowed.

The flowers in
the vase are
beautiful.

Did you feed **the**
dog?

The train to
Mumbai is
delayed.

The internet has
changed the
way we
communicate.

EXAMPLES OF INDEFINITE ARTICLE.



I saw **a** bird in the garden.



She needs **an** umbrella because it's raining.



He wants to buy **a** new car.



They live in **an** apartment downtown.



I'm reading **a** fascinating novel.

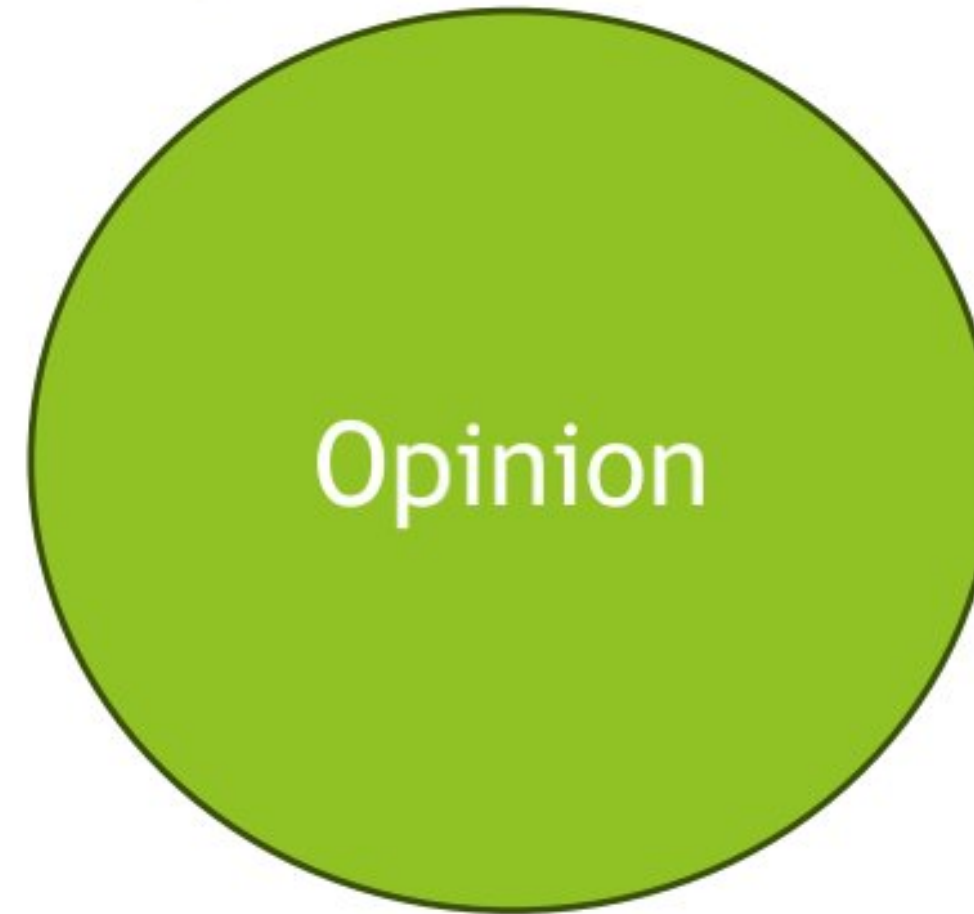
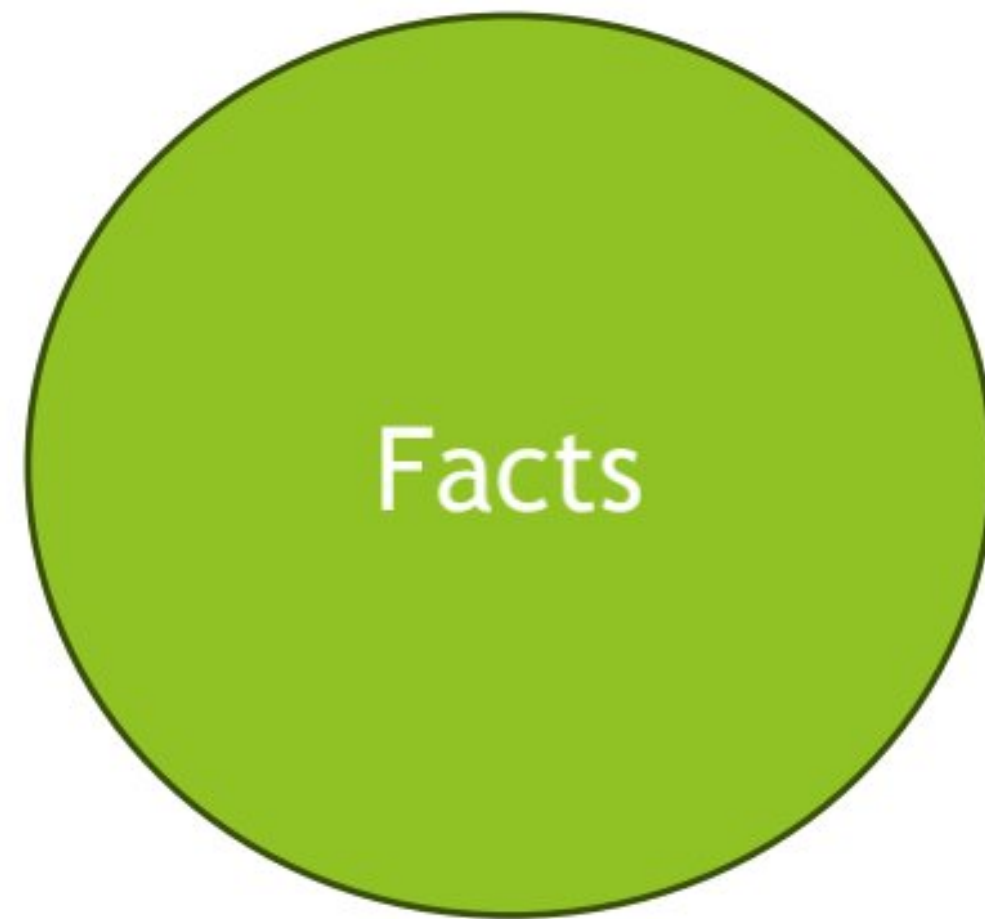


We are planning **a** trip to the mountains.

Expressing Opinions and Preferences Effectively

- ▶ **Module Goals:**
- ▶ 1) Clearly distinguish between facts, opinions, and preferences.
- ▶ 2) Confidently identify and articulate their own opinions and preferences on various topics.
- ▶ 3) Use a range of appropriate language and sentence structures to express their views.

Part 1: Understanding the Basics



Opinion: What someone thinks, believes, or feels about something. It's a viewpoint, not necessarily a fact.

- **Example 1:** "I think pizza is delicious."
- **Example 2:** "I believe that teamwork is very important."

Preference: What someone likes or dislikes more than another thing. It's a choice based on personal taste.

- **Example 1:** "I prefer reading fiction books over non-fiction."
- **Example 2:** "My preference is for blue over green."
- **Example 3:** "I like playing video games more than watching TV."

Fact: Something that is true and can be proven.

- **Example 1 (Contrast):** "Pizza is a type of food that originated in Italy." (Fact)
- **Example 2 (Contrast):** "Summer in India is often very hot." (Fact)
- **Example 3 (Contrast):** "Teamwork involves working together towards a common goal." (Fact)

Activity: Spot the Difference

- "The sky is often blue during the day." (Fact)
- "Blue is the prettiest colour." (Preference/Opinion)
- "Dogs are mammals." (Fact)
- "Dogs make better pets than cats." (Opinion)
- "I prefer watching comedies." (Preference)

- **Direct Statements:**
 - "I think..." (Example: "I think that school uniforms are a good idea.")
 - "I believe..." (Example: "I believe that everyone should have access to clean water.")
 - "In my opinion..." (Example: "In my opinion, honesty is the best policy.")
 - "I feel that..." (Example: "I feel that it's important to be kind to others.")
- **More Formal Statements:**
 - "From my perspective..." (Example: "From my perspective, technology has both advantages and disadvantages.")
 - "It seems to me that..." (Example: "It seems to me that the main character made a poor decision.")
 - "Based on what I know..." (Example: "Based on what I know, exercise is crucial for good health.")
 - "I would argue that..." (Example: "I would argue that creativity is just as important as intelligence.")

- **Sentence Starters for Preferences:** Provide a range of ways to express what you like or prefer.
- **Direct Statements:**
 - "I prefer..." (Example: "I prefer tea over coffee.")
 - "I like... more than..." (Example: "I like playing football more than watching it.")
 - "My favourite... is..." (Example: "My favourite colour is purple.")
 - "I enjoy..." (Example: "I enjoy listening to music in my free time.")
- **Expressing Dislike:**
 - "I don't like..." (Example: "I don't like waking up early.")
 - "I dislike..." (Example: "I dislike crowded places.")
 - "I'm not a big fan of..." (Example: "I'm not a big fan of horror movies.")
 - "I'd rather..." (Example: "I'd rather stay home than go to a noisy party.")

Activity: Rank the below foods from, favourite to least favourite.



► Reading Comprehension: The Art of Small Talk

- Small talk is often described as light, informal conversation about unimportant things. You might find yourself engaging in it at a party, in an elevator, or while waiting in line. While it might seem trivial, small talk plays a crucial role in social interactions. It helps us build connections, ease awkward silences, and create a friendly atmosphere.
- Think of small talk as a social lubricant. It allows people who don't know each other well to start a conversation without diving into deep or personal topics immediately. It's a way to test the waters, find common ground, and decide if you want to have a more meaningful conversation later.
- The key to good small talk is to be approachable, friendly, and genuinely interested in the other person. Start with easy, open-ended questions that encourage more than just a "yes" or "no" answer. Topics like the weather, current events (non-controversial ones!), hobbies.
- For example, instead of asking "Are you enjoying the party?", try "What's been the highlight of your evening so far?" or "Have you tried the appetizers? They're delicious!" These questions invite the other person to share a little more and give you something to respond to.
- Remember to listen actively to their responses. Show genuine interest through your body language - make eye contact, nod, and smile. Ask follow-up questions to keep the conversation flowing. If they mention that they are enjoy hiking, you could ask, "Oh, where are some of your favourite trails around here?"
- Small talk isn't meant to last forever. It's often a stepping stone to a deeper conversation or a polite way to interact before moving on. Knowing when and how to gracefully end a small talk conversation is also important. You can use phrases like, "It was nice chatting with you," or "I should probably mingle a bit more, but I enjoyed our conversation."
- So, the next time you find yourself in a social situation, don't underestimate the power of small talk. It's a simple yet effective tool for building connections and navigating the social landscape.

- ▶ According to the passage, what is small talk often described as?
- ▶ What is one of the crucial roles that small talk plays in social interactions?
- ▶ Why is small talk compared to a "social lubricant" in the passage?
- ▶ What is mentioned as a key to good small talk?
- ▶ Give an example from the passage of an open-ended question that is suggested for starting small talk.
- ▶ What should you do while the other person is responding during small talk?
- ▶ According to the passage, is small talk intended to be a long and deep conversation?
- ▶ What is one suggested phrase for gracefully ending a small talk conversation?
- ▶ Based on the passage, why should you not underestimate the power of small talk?
- ▶ What are some examples of "safe bet" topics for small talk mentioned in the passage?

- ▶ According to the passage, small talk is often described as **light, informal conversation about unimportant things**.
- ▶ One of the crucial roles that small talk plays in social interactions is that it **helps us build connections, ease awkward silences, and create a friendly atmosphere**. (Accept any one of these as a correct answer).
- ▶ Small talk is compared to a "social lubricant" in the passage because it **allows people who don't know each other well to start a conversation without diving into deep or personal topics immediately** and helps interactions flow more smoothly.
- ▶ A key to good small talk mentioned in the passage is to **be approachable, friendly, and genuinely interested in the other person**.
- ▶ An example from the passage of an open-ended question suggested for starting small talk is **"What's been the highlight of your evening so far?"** or **"Have you tried the appetizers? They're delicious!"** (Accept either one).
- ▶ While the other person is responding during small talk, you should **listen actively to their responses, show genuine interest through your body language (make eye contact, nod, and smile), and ask follow-up questions**. (Accept any one or a combination of these).
- ▶ According to the passage, small talk is **not intended to be a long and deep conversation**.
- ▶ One suggested phrase for gracefully ending a small talk conversation is **"It was nice chatting with you,"** or **"I should probably mingle a bit more, but I enjoyed our conversation."** (Accept either one).
- ▶ Based on the passage, you should not underestimate the power of small talk because it's a **simple yet effective tool for building connections and navigating the social landscape**.
- ▶ Some examples of "safe bet" topics for small talk mentioned in the passage are **the weather, current events (non-controversial ones!), hobbies, or the environment you're both in**.

THANK YOU