

## Grammatical Structures

### **Opinion**

One thing you should not do is start every sentence with 'I think...' or 'In my opinion...'

Try to use:

As I see it,

Personally,

For me,

If you feel very strongly about something:

I'm convinced that....

I'm certain that....

I'm sure that....

If you are less sure:

I guess that...

I suppose that....

I'd say that.....

### **Evaluate**

Therefore, we will need to use expressions that allow us to agree or disagree.

For agreement:

I couldn't agree with you more.

That's so true.

That's for sure.

That's exactly how I feel.

No doubt about it.

I suppose so./I guess so.

You/they have a point there.

### For disagreement:

I don't think so.

I'm afraid I disagree.

I totally disagree.

I beg to differ.

I'd say the exact opposite.

Not necessarily.

That's not always true.

That's not always the case.

Will have to extend your answers with explanations and examples.

### **Future**

You are often asked to predict how a certain topic will change in the future. For making future predictions, we normally use 'will + verb.'

#### Complex Examples:

X plans to.....

It is predicted that....

X intends to....

I foresee.....

It is foreseeable....

#### Conditionals- If X + verb.....

It is likely that...

It is probable that....

It is unforeseeable that....

I envisage....

### **Cause and Effect**

#### To talk about cause and effect:

...because...

...as a result....

...resulted in...

...as a consequence...

...due to....

...caused...

...led to....

...means that....

Only use them if you are sure your sentences are grammatically correct.

### **Hypothetical**

The second conditional is used to talk about 'unreal', 'unlikely' or 'impossible' situations.

The grammar we use for this is:

If + (subject 1) + past participle, then (subject 2) + would + verb

### **Compare and Contrast**

irregular:

Good- better

Bad- worse

Far- further

short adjectives:

Hard- harder

Cheap- cheaper

Easy- easier

Lazy- lazier

For longer adjectives:

More interesting

More difficult

## **Past**

We use the structure has/have + been + present participle (verb-ing) for this tense.

- Used to + infinitive to talk about past habits or states that are now finished.
- Would + infinitive to describe past habits.
- Past simple to talk about things you did in the past that you no longer do or are no longer true.
- Past continuous to talk about the background of a story or how you felt at a particular time.
- Past perfect to say something happened before something else in the past.