

- 1 Read the dialogue and complete the gaps with the words and phrases below.

I agree with I disagree with impossible
inconvenient irresponsible It's true that
right to say that unfair

- Ellie** I can't believe it! Look at this new rule!
All students have to attend a 'homework session' from 3 to 4 p.m. every day.
That's so ¹_____.
- Will** I don't think it's a bad idea.
²_____ the day at college is longer,
but it means we can finish our homework
before we go home.
- Henry** ³_____ Will. We can use the computers
and the library at college
for research. That's really useful.
- Ellie** Well, ⁴_____ both of you. Homework is
for home! I like working independently.
- Jade** Yes, Ellie's ⁵_____ because we do
have to learn to be independent.
- Will** But some people don't have the space or the
facilities at home to do their homework.
It's ⁶_____ to do anything in my house
– it's so noisy!
- Jade** OK, but then why isn't the homework session
optional? Do they think we're
⁷_____ ? I'm seventeen years old.
I can make my own choices.
- Ellie** And also, it's really ⁸_____ for me – I've
got swimming club on Wednesdays and Fridays
at 3.30. So now I have to change those training
sessions. I'm so angry about it.
- Henry** Yup, we noticed that!

- 2 Act out the dialogue in groups of four.

- 3 **SPEAKING** Work in groups of four. Choose one of the statements below and discuss your opinions. Students A and B argue in favour of the statement. Students C and D argue against it.

School canteens shouldn't serve chips, sweets, fizzy drinks, or any other unhealthy food.

Education should be obligatory until the age of twenty.

All sport at school should be non-competitive.

Notes

3 Functional Language

Practice: Agreeing and disagreeing

Aims: To practise using language to agree and disagree. This draws on the language in Lesson 3C.

Time: 15–20 minutes

Materials: 1 handout for each student

Exercise 1

- Give each student a handout and ask them to do the exercise. You could elicit the first two answers as examples. Ask students what they think of the new rule discussed in the dialogue. Do they think it's a good idea or a bad idea?

KEY

- 1 unfair
- 2 It's true that
- 3 I agree with
- 4 I disagree with
- 5 right to say that
- 6 impossible
- 7 irresponsible
- 8 inconvenient

Exercise 2

- Students work in groups of four to act out the completed dialogue. Encourage them to use intonation and sentence stress to make their dialogue more dramatic.

Exercise 3

- Still in their groups, students choose a controversial statement and discuss their opinions. Give them time to think about the arguments in favour / against the statement and remind them to use the functional language from this lesson. You could tell students to discuss one of the statements as a class debate, inviting opinions from all students. Finally they can vote in favour of or against the statement.