

# 11.1 Listening: discussions, arguments and media

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: 17 marks

KEY WORDS spine

## Listening: discussions, arguments and media

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### Objective

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Supported preparation: Follow the argument spine; Hear concessions as armour, not surrender. This is original classroom practice, not an official exam paper.

### 1 Key knowledge and worked examples

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**The spine.** Claim (the point is), reason (because), evidence (studies show), concession (admittedly), restatement (even so). Marker families: contrast (however) promises the speaker's real position; concession (granted) precedes a counter; emphasis (in fact) loads the point; structure (to sum up) reports place. Media: the host's question sets the topic; critics say is a claim in someone else's coat; spin lives in the adverb (only 4 vs fully 4).

### 2 Practice

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2.1 Name the five parts of the argument spine. [5]

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2.2 What does admittedly promise? [1]

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**2.3** What follows however, almost always? [1]

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**2.4** Whose claim is critics say the plan will fail? [1]

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**2.5** Where does spin live: the number or the adverb? [1]

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### 3 Exam-style questions

**3.1** (*Spine style.*) Label the moves: I firmly believe the school day should start later, because teenagers sleep on a different clock. Admittedly, buses would cost more. Even so, the gain outweighs the cost. [4]

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**3.2** (*Media style.*) In a podcast, the guest first says: That is an interesting question, and then changes topic. What has the guest done to the host question? [2]

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**3.3** (*Spin style.*) Only 30 percent failed; fully 70 percent passed. Same data or different? Explain in one line. [2]

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## Solutions

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**2.1** Claim (1); reason (1); evidence (1); concession (1); restatement (1).

**2.2** A conceded point before a counter (1).

**2.3** The speaker's real position (1).

**2.4** The speaker quoting the critics (the claim wears a critic coat) (1).

**2.5** The adverb (1).

**3.1** Claim: start later (1); reason: different clock (1); concession: buses cost more (1); restatement: gain outweighs (1).

**3.2** Dodged it (1); the first sentence answers or dodges, and this one dodged (1).

**3.3** Same data (1); the adverbs only and fully dress one number in opposite uniforms (1).

Local review guidance: (R1) spine order; dodge spotting; adverb spin. Authored guidance.