

3.1 Compare spoken text functions and encourage a reasoned discussion

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Total: 24 marks

KEY WORDS speech function 言语功能 • hedge 模糊限制语 • turn-taking 话轮转换

Objective

Compare spoken text functions and encourage a reasoned discussion. This is original GAC007-aligned practice, not an official assessment. All people, texts, records and instructions are fictional. This sheet’s word ranges and analytic points are local teaching conventions, not official assessment specifications. Written scripts and plans support listening/speaking preparation; they do not replace reviewed audio or assess pronunciation, actual delivery or one-pass listening comprehension.

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

■ Key knowledge: topic, speech function and evidence strength are different

A **speech function** 言语功能 is what a statement does: inform, request, recommend, question or qualify a claim. General announcements often give an audience an action, while academic discussions may test a claim with evidence and limitations. Topic alone does not decide text type.

A **hedge** 模糊限制语 such as might keeps a claim at a limited strength. **Turn-taking** 话轮转换 includes responding to a point and inviting a relevant contribution. An unanswered question is not confirmed agreement. Reading these scripts prepares a rehearsal; it does not measure actual listening or spoken delivery.

■ Source A: text or task brief

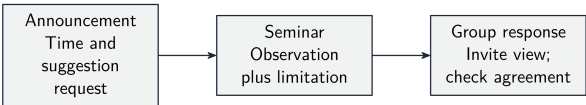
Original written Script A, coordinator’s announcement: “From Tuesday, the study centre will offer a discussion table between 16:00 and 17:00. Please write a suggestion at the desk if you would prefer another time. Suggestions will be collected through Friday; no permanent timetable has been chosen.”

Original written Script B, student seminar contribution: “We observed the discussion table on three afternoons. Visitors sometimes exchanged notes, but we did not ask whether the exchange helped their learning. The table might support discussion; our observations do not establish a learning improvement. We suggest asking visitors about their needs before choosing a permanent timetable.”

■ Source B: response or review record

Dara: “People exchanged notes, so the table definitely improved everybody’s learning. The timetable is permanent now.” Sam: “The observations are interesting, but we have not measured learning. Could we ask visitors what they need?” Lee has not spoken yet. Dara says, “Lee has no objection because Lee is quiet.” The group’s task is to recommend a next step, not to approve the centre’s timetable.

■ Worked example: respond to the observation and retain its limit



Known: note exchanges were observed, but learning was not measured. Why retain might? The proposed benefit is possible rather than established.

A response could say “The exchanges suggest a useful question, but they do not show learning gains. Lee, what would you ask visitors before we recommend a timetable?” It acknowledges evidence, identifies the limit and invites a relevant turn without inventing agreement.

2 Practice

2.1 State the announced time window and the suggestion-collection deadline. [2]

2.2 Identify the function of please write a suggestion and of might support discussion.[2]

2.3 Compare the two scripts using purpose, evidence and certainty. [3]

2.4 Explain THREE unsupported claims made by Dara. [3]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Write a response acknowledging one observation, explaining its limit and inviting Lee's view. Explain how each part advances the group's task. [6]

3.2 Write an 80–110 word discussion response that recommends a next step, invites a quieter participant and distinguishes recommendation from approval. [8]