

Exercise walk-through

9.2

Opinions, attitudes and connections

IGCSE English

Interpret the account, not a single strong word

An **opinion** evaluates something. **Feelings** and **attitude** concern how a speaker responds.

A strong word may describe an earlier worry or someone else's view. Consider who holds it and whether it changes.

“The food was fine” alone does not prove a complaint. Context and real delivery matter; a transcript does not establish a particular tone.

Original task 2: the workshop's effect

How does the speaker feel by the end?

A: sorry they attended.

B: more confident about the skill.

C: disappointed that everything was too easy.

Choose from teacher-read script 2 before revealing the text. If working alone, use the next transcript as reasoning practice.

Transcript 2: track the change

“I thought the workshop would be too advanced. The first task was hard, but the tutor showed each step, and by the end I could do it myself. I’d sign up again.”

How does the earlier worry relate to the final response?

Does “hard” by itself prove an overall negative attitude?

Task 2: worked reasoning

B: supported	Independent completion and wanting to return support increased confidence.
A: contradicted	Signing up again conflicts with regretting attendance here. The first task was hard, not all too easy.
C: contradicted	
Change over time	The earlier worry is not the final response. Follow the whole account.

Connections help organise meaning

Ideas **connect** through contrast, reasons, results and changes over time.

“But” can contrast an earlier difficulty with later support. “Because” can explain a preference. “So” can introduce a result.

Listen to content as well as signal words. A signal word alone neither identifies the answer nor earns a mark.

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 What is Ben's opinion at the start?

[1]

2.2 Does Amina agree with him? Quote the words that show it.

[2]

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 What is Ben's opinion at the start?

[1]

2.1

- Ben's opening view
 - he thinks the cameras are a **good thing**, because of last year's bag thefts
-

2.2 Does Amina agree with him? Quote the words that show it.

[2]

2.2

- **no**, she does not fully agree
- "I take your point about the thefts. I'm just not sure a camera stops anything" – concede then **disagree**

Exercises 2.3·2.4

2.3 How does Ben's position change, and which words show the change? [2]

2.4 What does Amina think the money should be spent on? [1]

Exercises 2.3-2.4

2.3 How does Ben's position change, and which words show the change? [2]

2.3

- he becomes **less certain**
- “That’s fair. I suppose I was assuming... and I don’t actually know that they do” shows him giving up the assumption

2.4 What does Amina think the money should be spent on? [1]

2.4

- lockers

Exercise 3.1 (a)

3.1 For each phrase, say whether it signals agreement, disagreement or doubt. [4]

(a) “I take your point, but...”

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(a) “I take your point, but...”

(a)

- **disagreement**

Exercise 3.1 (b)

3.1 For each phrase, say whether it signals agreement, disagreement or doubt. [4]

(b) “Absolutely – I’d jump at it.”

Exercise 3.1 (b)

3.1 For each phrase, say whether it signals agreement, disagreement or doubt. [4]

(b) “Absolutely – I’d jump at it.”

(b)

- agreement / enthusiasm

Exercise 3.1 (c)

3.1 For each phrase, say whether it signals agreement, disagreement or doubt. [4]

(c) “In theory, I suppose.”

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3.1 For each phrase, say whether it signals agreement, disagreement or doubt. [4]

(c) “In theory, I suppose.”

(c)

- **doubt**

Exercise 3.1 (d)

3.1 For each phrase, say whether it signals agreement, disagreement or doubt. [4]

(d) “That’s fair.”

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3.1 For each phrase, say whether it signals agreement, disagreement or doubt. [4]

(d) “That’s fair.”

(d)

- **agreement**, or at least concession

Exercise 3.2

3.2 A student answers “Ben thinks cameras are a good thing” to a question asking for Ben’s opinion at the end of the conversation. Explain why this is wrong. [2]

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3.2

- that was his opinion at the **start**
- by the end he admits he does not know whether cameras deter anything – a question about the **end** wants the final position