



## Task 2 Discussing other people's opinions

1 Complete the list below with a famous artist and scientist from your country.

- Leonardo da Vinci
- Albert Einstein
- Sir Isaac Newton
- Nicolaus Copernicus

.....  
 .....

- a Are the people in the list famous in your country?
- b What do you know about them if they are?
- c What benefit do artists and scientists bring to society?
- d Do artists and scientists in your society have a high or low status?
- e Should scientists and artists be governed by the same rules as we are? Why do you think so?

2 Read the Task 2 question below and say which part of the question relates to:

- a people's opinions about the arts?
- b people's opinions about sciences?
- c your opinion?

*Some people believe that the arts should receive subsidies or sponsorship from government and big companies. Others feel such spending is a luxury and that it would be better if it were invested in scientific projects. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.*

3 Complete the paragraph with sentences a–c.

- a So supporters of arts groups feel that the company's travel and accommodation costs ought to receive more subsidies or sponsorship.
- b Touring theatre groups or dance companies are a case in point.
- c Many people feel strongly that arts projects like exhibitions of photography, sculpture, or paintings should be helped financially by government and big companies.

1 ..... They argue that such projects enrich people's lives, often simply because they are new and show a different way of doing things.

2 ..... National companies, for example, can take plays to provincial areas that don't have their own facilities. This, however, requires a lot of money. 3 ..... If this were done more by the government and commercial organizations, then the arts could be brought to a wider public.

4 Which phrases are used in the paragraph in 3 to indicate someone else's opinion?



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## 5 Match the statements a–h with the best explanations 1–8.

Example: a 4

- a Amateur arts groups should be encouraged.  
 b The wealth of a nation is connected with scientific development.  
 c Science is now playing a more important role in our lives than in the past.  
 d The work of artists should be censored.  
 e Scientists should have some involvement with artists, and vice versa.  
 f Science is dull and boring.  
 g Many scientific experiments are dangerous to society.  
 h The work of scientists should not be tightly regulated by society.
- 1 Modern economies cannot advance without a strong scientific base.  
 2 Bringing these two groups together would be better for society as a whole.  
 3 It has an effect on everything we do from eating to travelling.  
 4 Such groups help to develop talent and bring people together.  
 5 Certain works of art that are produced are offensive and should be banned.  
 6 By limiting scientific work, we might stop certain beneficial developments.  
 7 There are many examples where serious mistakes have been made.  
 8 Spending time alone in laboratories without much human contact is not very interesting.

## 6 It is often useful to suggest that an opinion belongs to someone else. Read the example and phrases in the lists below. Then join your answers to 5 with similar phrases.

Example

*Some people think that* amateur arts groups should be encouraged. *They argue that* such groups help to develop talent and bring people together.

It is argued by some people that  
 Yet others believe that  
 Many people think that  
 A commonly held belief is that  
 Some people feel that

They claim that  
 They feel that  
 They maintain that  
 They argue that

## 7 Use the expressions in the box below to develop the explanations in 5.

Example

*They argue that* such groups help to develop talent and bring people together. *A good example here is* where a young artist joins a local group and progresses on to TV work.

For example, For instance, A case in point is ..., which  
 A very good example here is Take ... for example. It/They



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## Hypothesizing

- 8 Match the sentence halves a–e with the endings 1–5.
- a Personally, I would argue that science need not be
  - b However, it *could* possibly be a requirement for the first two or three years,
  - c During this time, children can do exciting experiments,
  - d If trips to places of scientific interest are also arranged,
  - e Above all, I think it is better for science classes to be optional
- 1 this *might* motivate some children to take up a science subject.
  - 2 obligatory at this level.
  - 3 because not all pupils are good at such subjects and any compulsion *might* discourage them.
  - 4 like making basic chemical compounds or collecting plants.
  - 5 as it *would* give pupils a taster.
- 9 The sentences in 8 form a paragraph. Why has the writer chosen to use words such as *would*, *could*, and *might*? Which sentence asks the reader to imagine a situation and its consequence?

### Technique

Use linking phrases like *if* and *unless* in answer to Task 2 questions in order to hypothesize about effects.

- 10 The linking phrases *if*, *providing*, *provided*, and *unless* can all be used to hypothesize. Read the example. Then rewrite sentences a–d using the word given.

#### Example

A nation should nurture the talents of its people. It will then reap many benefits.

*If a nation nurtures the talents of its people, it will reap many benefits.*

- a Without being encouraged by parents and teachers, budding musicians will not develop.  
Unless .....
- b Science may one day stop the ageing process in humans, but will this benefit mankind?  
If .....
- c If there is no effort to keep traditional crafts alive, they will disappear.  
Unless .....
- d If innovation is encouraged, many new jobs will be created.  
Providing .....



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- 11 Complete the following sentences using your own ideas.
- a Provided parents have an interest in music,  
.....
  - b If government support for arts projects is not available,  
.....
  - c Unless entrance to museums and art galleries is free,  
.....
  - d Providing young scientists are given the right opportunities,  
.....