

Name: Date:



Background information

Use the following text as background information on the topic of your dialogue. Carefully read the text and mark or write down any relevant information. This information is meant both for you and your dialogue partner.

Understanding Autism

Introduction

Autism, also known as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), is a developmental disorder that affects communication and behavior. It is called a "spectrum" because there is a wide range of symptoms and their severity. Here is some information to help you understand autism better.

Roles in a Discussion about Autism

Pro-Roles

Advocate:

You support people with autism and want to help everyone understand their needs.

You need to explain why it is important to support people with autism in schools and workplaces.

Teacher:

You work with students who have autism.

You need to talk about the strategies you use to help these students learn and feel comfortable in class.

Contra-Roles

Skeptic:

You have questions about the resources used for people with autism.

You need to ask about the effectiveness of different support programs and whether they are necessary. Employer:

You are concerned about hiring people with autism.

You need to discuss the challenges and considerations involved in employing people with autism.

Key Information about Autism

Symptoms

- Difficulty with social interactions: People with autism might struggle to make eye contact, understand body language, or engage in conversations.
- Repetitive behaviors: This can include repeating words or phrases, lining up toys, or following strict routines.

 Unique strengths: Many people with autism have strong skills in areas like math, music, art, or technology.

Causes

The exact cause of autism is unknown, but researchers believe it involves a combination of genetic and environmental factors. It is not caused by bad parenting or vaccinations.

Diagnosis

Autism is usually diagnosed in early childhood. Doctors and specialists look for signs and symptoms through observations and developmental screenings. Early diagnosis can lead to better support and outcomes.

Support and Treatment

- Educational support: Special education programs and individualized learning plans can help students with autism.
- Therapy: Speech therapy, occupational therapy, and behavioral therapy are common treatments.
- Medication: Some people with autism take medication to help manage symptoms like anxiety or hyperactivity.

Challenges

- Communication barriers: People with autism might find it hard to express their thoughts and feelings.
- Social isolation: Making friends and being part of a social group can be difficult.
- Sensory sensitivity: Many people with autism are very sensitive to lights, sounds, and textures.

Importance of Support

- Inclusion: Schools and workplaces should include people with autism and make accommodations for their needs.
- Awareness: Understanding autism helps reduce stigma and discrimination.
- Empowerment: Supporting people with autism helps them reach their full potential and contribute to society.

Role-Playing Activity

Scenario

One student is the advocate, and the other is the skeptic. The advocate explains the importance of support for people with autism, and the skeptic asks challenging questions.

Example Dialogue

Advocate: "It is important to support students with autism because they have unique strengths and can succeed with the right help."

Skeptic: "But what about the cost of special programs? Are they really effective?"

Advocate: "Research shows that early intervention and tailored support can make a huge difference in their development and future success."

Conclusion

Understanding autism is crucial for creating a supportive and inclusive environment. By learning about autism, we can help people with this disorder lead fulfilling lives and contribute positively to their communities.



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Guide to participating in a dialogue

Carefully read the following guide to participating in a dialogue.

Guide to participating in a dialogue

Introduction:

In an oral exam, it's important to express your thoughts, listen actively, and show understanding. This guide will help you navigate greetings, small talk, agreeing or disagreeing respectfully, and concluding the conversation.

Step-by-Step Guide:

1. Start the Dialogue:

- Begin with a friendly greeting and small talk.
- Example: "Hi, how are you? Ready for the exam?"

2. Introduce the Topic:

- Mention the main topic to set the stage.
- Example: "Today, we will discuss the impact of social media on teenagers."

3. Discuss in Detail:

- Present your points with examples.
- Example: "Social media keeps us connected but can also cause issues like cyberbullying."

4. Listen Actively:

• Show you're listening by nodding, making eye contact, and responding appropriately.

5. Incorporate Background Knowledge:

- Relate the discussion to historical, cultural, or social contexts.
- Example: "Social media has changed the way we communicate compared to the past."

6. Agree or Disagree Respectfully:

- Politely agree or disagree and provide reasons.
- Example: "I see your point, but it can also lead to mental health issues."

7. Share Personal Views:

- Reflect on the topic with personal experiences or opinions.
- Example: "I find that too much social media can be distracting."

8. Connect to Broader Themes:

- Relate the discussion to larger issues like societal changes or ethics.
- Example: "This touches on the need for responsible technology use."

9. Summarize and Conclude:

- Summarize the main points and conclude the discussion.
- Example: "In conclusion, social media has both benefits and drawbacks."

10. End with Farewells:

- · Conclude with polite farewells.
- Example: "Thank you for the discussion. Good luck with your exams!"

11. Respect and Interaction:

- Be respectful, avoid interrupting, and listen actively.
- Provide constructive feedback and encourage your partner.

12. Practice and Preparation:

- Practice dialogues with classmates or friends.
- Read up on various topics to be prepared.
- Seek feedback to improve.

Key Points to Remember:

- Start with greetings and small talk.
- Introduce the topic clearly.
- · Share detailed points and listen actively.
- Include relevant background knowledge.
- · Agree or disagree respectfully.
- · Share personal views.
- Connect to broader themes.
- Summarize and conclude effectively.
- · End with polite farewells.

Good luck with your studies and exams!



Grammar

There are no specific guidelines for grammar that you have to follow when performing your dialogue but make sure to use tenses correctly, as well as the appropriate grammatical phrases.



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Vocabulary

Use the following list of vocabulary as a help for your dialogue.

Vocabulary list for dialogues

- · first of all zunächst einmal
- in my opinion meiner Meinung nach
- · on the one hand einerseits
- · on the other hand andererseits
- furthermore außerdem
- · for instance zum Beispiel
- what do you think about...? was denkst du über...?
- could you explain that, please? könntest du das bitte erklären?
- I see what you mean ich verstehe, was du meinst
- that's a good point das ist ein guter Punkt
- I agree with you ich stimme dir zu
- I disagree with you ich stimme dir nicht zu
- · however jedoch
- on the contrary im Gegenteil
- · in conclusion abschließend
- to sum up zusammenfassend
- · let's move on to lass uns weitermachen mit
- I'm not sure about that ich bin mir da nicht sicher
- could you repeat that, please? könntest du das bitte wiederholen?
- let's agree to disagree lass uns darauf einigen, uneinig zu sein
- what's your opinion on...? was ist deine Meinung zu...?
- that's an interesting perspective das ist eine interessante Perspektive
- we should consider wir sollten in Betracht ziehen



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Practising your dialogue

Use your notes as well as the vocabulary introduced in the worksheet and start practising your dialogue with your partner. Try talking for about 6 minutes.

Once you're quite confident with your dialogue, present it to another student in your class. They will fill out the feedback sheet below and give you feedback on what you did well and what you still can improve upon.

Yes/No	Ideas for Improvement
	Yes/No

Vocabulary	



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Sample solution



Audio Content

To listen to audio content just scan the QR code and listen to it on the digital worksheet.

https://to-teach.ai/worksheet/i8GFmEKyoBVA23OUYC51