

Warm up

Ask students to explain to you why categorizing information is a good idea:

- It helps sort out information, so it can be used to plan writing.
- Thinking through the information allows students to gain a better understanding of the material.
- It can help students see new patterns within the information which can give them a fresh insight into what they are studying.
- If students are researching, it gives them a method for organizing their notes.

Also ask students which approach they prefer for categorizing – mind maps, tables, Venn diagrams, etc.

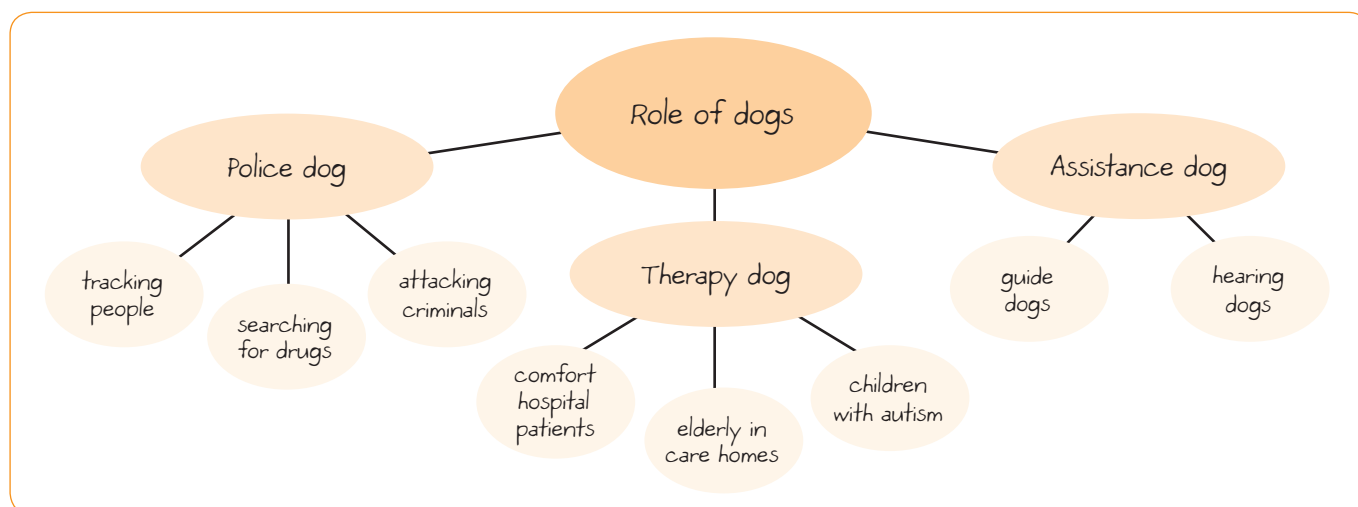
Using the Factsheet

There are three possible ways to use the Factsheet:

- 1 Give students the **Factsheet** before the lesson, so they can read it at home and come to the lesson prepared to do the **Worksheet**. If you use this approach, start the lesson by checking that all students have read and understood the **Factsheet** and answer any questions.
- 2 Give students the **Factsheet** at the beginning of the lesson and start by working through it with the students.
- 3 Focus on the **Worksheet** in the lesson, then give students the **Factsheet** at the end of the lesson, so they can take it home and keep it as a reference or revision tool.

Theory to practice

Suggested answers



Ways to get more practice

- 1 Possible answers
breed, size, colour, suitability as pets, suitability as working animals
- 2 Possible answers
classroom objects, objects made of wood, writing implements

Using the Worksheet

Practice

- 1 See if you can match the lists to the categories.

a 3 b 2 c 1 d 4 e 6 f 5


- 2**  Were you able to match up the lists and categories without a dictionary? Discuss with your partner which words are new for you.

Students' own answers

- 3** Can you add any more words to each category?

Possible answers

- 1 It has many disadvantages.
- 2 Prussian
- 3 chameleon
- 4 stormy
- 5 acacia
- 6 Neptune

- 4**  Here are some more categories. Working with a partner, see how many words/phrases you can think of for each one.


Possible answers

European countries – Netherlands, Greece, Portugal, Switzerland, Bulgaria
 Pairs of opposites – day/night, entrance/exit, high/low, overland/underground, eastern/western
 Large mammals – whale, bear, elephant, giraffe, seal
 Words that mean happy – cheerful, merry, delighted, jolly, satisfied
 Advantages of speaking English – international language of communication, employers may want it, language of science, language of the internet, makes travel easier

- 5** Here is a Venn diagram. See if you can sort these words/phrases into the categories.

Suggested answers

Travel by plane – very fast, economy tickets, used by more people
 Travel by cruise ship – can take many days, more expensive, luxurious, very comfortable, easier with young children, can offer amenities like bars and clubs, you can walk around freely
 Both – travel over short distances, travel over long distances, very safe

- 6**  Do you and your partner agree on where you have put the information in the Venn diagram?

Students' own answers

Learning outcome

By the end of the lesson, students should:

- understand why categorizing information is beneficial
- know how to categorize information

Ending the lesson

Sum up why students can benefit from using categorization: it aids memorization of information, it helps organization of information to be used in writing and research, and it encourages new ways of looking at information, which can help students learn more English language.