

Student name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Practice

- 1** You are going to take part in a discussion with a group of other students. Read the task below and make notes about what you would like to suggest to your group.




You have been asked, in groups of five, to prepare some pages for a website for new students joining your institution next year. The pages will have two specific focuses:

- a** How is life here different from school life, and what challenges are there for new students?
- b** What essential information do new students need to know about the institution, its courses, the teaching and non-academic life?

You will need to plan your ideas and present them to the rest of the class and your teacher.

- 2** Complete the phrases with one word in each gap.

Asking open-ended questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I understand, but why _____¹ that happen? I see. When was that? 	Asking for clarification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do you _____², exactly? I'm not _____³ what you mean by ... 	Expressing your opinion at the right time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I'd _____⁴ to say something here. Can I just add _____⁵ here?
Paraphrasing to show or get understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> And so you think ...? So you are _____⁶ ...? 	Rephrasing to clarify <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Just to _____⁷, I meant ... What I'm _____⁸ to say is ... So what I mean is ... 	Using short phrases to show you understand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I _____⁹. Hmm, that's interesting.
Agreeing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Absolutely. That's a good _____¹⁰. True ... 	Disagreeing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I don't see it _____¹¹ that. I'm not sure I _____¹² with you there. 	

- 3**  Work in groups of five and discuss, agree and note down your ideas for the project in Exercise 1.
- 4**  Appoint one person from your group to be the writer. Work with the writer to put your key points on a poster or large piece of paper. Check they are complete and easy to read.
- 5**  Attach your posters to the classroom wall or display them on the table.

- 6** All students should now stand up. Two of you should stay with your poster while the others move around the room to look at all the other posters and ask questions about them. The two of you who stay with your poster should be ready to discuss your ideas with other students.

Reflect

- 7** What did you learn in this unit?
- 8** What discussions have you already been involved in at your institution?
- 9** What are the challenges of listening to conversations?