**Unit 5 Education systems**

**Task 1 Speaking**

**Which of the following learning situations are most effective for you?**

* being a part of a large group and listening to a lecturer or teacher talking
* being part of a smaller group and actively participating in the class
* being in one-to-one situation and discussing your work with your teacher

**Which three of the following factors are most important for you in selecting a university for undergraduate or postgraduate study? Include any other factors you think are important.**

* The location of the university
* Course fees and living costs
* The reputation of the university
* Class sizes
* Facilities (technology, sports…)
* Language of instruction
* Language courses offered
* The number of international students

**Task 2 Listening**

**Listen to a group discussion between three students about the education system in their countries.**

* Where are the students from?
* What is the main point each student makes about their education system?

**Task 3 Question forms**

**Write full sentences using the prompts.**

1. you / prefer / studying / in groups or individually

…………………………………………………………………… ?

1. what courses / you / planning / take / next semester

…………….…………………………………………………….. ?

1. how / the university application system / work

…………………………………………………………………… ?

1. who / manage / the departments

……………………………………………………………………. ?

1. with / what / supervisors of diploma theses / help

…………………………………………………………………….. ?

**Prepare some more questions related to education and learning. Work in groups and ask and answer the questions.**

**Task 4 Do you agree with the statement? Note down two points to support your view.**

*Education should be a priority for government spending, even more than health, transport and defence.*

**Listen to a discussion in which the speakers are talking about the statement above.**

* **Do the speakers agree or disagree with the statement?**
* **Did any of the speakers make the same point that you made?**

**Task 5 Functions in discussions**

***Giving your opinion Asking for opinions***

***Agreeing Disagreeing Recognising an opinion***

**Match the phrases with one of the five functions above:**

*I´m afraid I disagree.*

*I see what you mean.*

*I would say that…*

*But what about… ?*

*Yes, absolutely.*

*That is not always the case.*

*Not necessarily.*

*Do you agree?*

*I beg to differ.*

*I couldn´t agree more.*

*In my opinion…*

*What do you think?*

**Task 6 You are going to take part in a discussion on the following topic:**

*Subjects related to science, technology and medicine are more important than humanities subjects such as history or arts.*

**Work alone and prepare for the discussion. Note down your views on the statement using the following headings:**

* Topic and focus
* Your view
* Main arguments for
* Main arguments against
* Examples and reasons
* Conclusion

**Think of some questions to ask other students.**

**Discuss the statement in groups. Allow others to make their points, listen and respond.**

**Task 7 Reporting words. Complete the gaps with the correct form of the word in brackets.**

1. Phillipson challenges the ………………. of Malwar´s figures. (ACCURATE)
2. Grey puts forward a ……………… theory to explain climate change. (CONTROVERSY)
3. Leonard´s ……………….. that women use some language structures more than men is an interesting one. (OBSERVE)
4. Wilson gives a …………… of the ancient alphabet of the Guelcoga people. (DESCRIBE)
5. Trakov puts an ………….. on pilot testing before carrying out a survey. (EMPHASISE)
6. Patel´s ………….. of the link between obesity and genes is of considerable interest. (PROVE)
7. We can not really draw a ……………….. between the two cases – they are entirely different. (COMPARE)

(Tasks 1-6 adapted from Chazal, E., McCarter, S. *Oxford EAP.* OUP, 2012.

Task 7 adapted from McCarthy, M., O´Dell, F. *Academic Vocabulary in Use.* CUP, 2011.)