

Identifying key words – GESE Grade 8

Grade: GESE Grade 8 (CEFR B2.2)

Time: 60 minutes

Skill focus:

- ▶ Listening for specific information or details (intensive), inferring, listening for gist (extensive)
- ▶ To demonstrate an activity that encourages students to actively participate in a conversation
- ▶ To support students in 'IDENTIFYING CLUES & INFERRING' using a variety of strategies to achieve comprehension, including listening for main points, and checking comprehension by using contextual clues

Resources:

- ▶ Example interactive prompts (see below)

Preparation

Before the lesson, select which interactive prompts you would like to use with your students. You can use ones from the following pages or find your own. Identify the key words. Based on those key words, be ready to guide students with appropriate questions they could ask the examiner to elicit further information and comments they could make.

The Lesson

1. Check students know what they have to do for the Interactive phase of the exam, including their task in that phase (**ask questions** to find out more information and **make comments**. Emphasise both the need to ask questions **and** to make comments.)
2. Tell students they're going to listen to some prompts, identify key words, and come up with some appropriate questions and comments.
3. Remind them that their questions/comments should be *relevant* and *appropriate* for the given prompt.
4. Students listen to a statement, read out by the teacher, and identify key words or phrases. These can be elicited by the teacher and written up on the whiteboard.

Example

About six months ago, some new neighbours moved in next door to us. They're very friendly, but we've had a few problems and I'm not sure what to do.

Key words/phrases: *six months ago, new neighbours, friendly, a few problems*

5. Students work in pairs/groups to brainstorm/create questions and comments based on the key words/phrases.

Sample Questions & Comments

six months ago:

Q: How long have you lived in your place?

C: That's not a very long time so maybe things will get better.

new neighbours:

Q: Who are the neighbours (e.g. a family? a couple?)

C: I've had difficult neighbours /I live next door to ... and they ... friendly:

Q: In what ways are they friendly?

C: I think it's really important to have friendly neighbours because...

a few problems:

Q: What problems have you had? (can ask examiner for several examples of problems)

C: I had a similar problem with a neighbour, and it was a really difficult situation.

6. When students have finished coming up with ideas, elicit a few as a class and discuss the suitability, i.e. how realistic/ appropriate are the questions/comments to the prompt?
7. Students can then role-play the conversation in pairs using the prompt statement and the prepared questions and comments.
8. Feedback: discuss how suitable they found their questions/comments to be when doing their role plays.
9. Tell the students they're going to repeat the activity with another prompt. Ask them to first reflect on the kinds of questions/comments which worked in the previous role play.

GESE – Sample interactive prompts

Intermediate stage (GESE Grade 8)

The following document contains some sample interactive prompts for GESE Grade 8. Please note these are example prompts and will not be used in a real examination.

GESE Grade 8

The examiner will introduce the Interactive phase by saying:

In this task, I'll start by telling you something. You'll have to ask me questions to find out more information and make comments. It's your responsibility to maintain the conversation. Are you ready?

Language functions

- ▶ Expressing feelings and emotions
- ▶ Expressing impossibility
- ▶ Reporting the conversation of others
- ▶ Speculating
- ▶ Persuading and discouraging

Grade 8 Interactive prompts

1. My friend's daughter is a fantastic singer, but she's no longer interested in performing. I don't like to see such talent wasted.
2. Some friends of mine have just told me they are thinking about moving to another country. I'm not sure it's the right thing to do.
3. My nephew's been doing a lot of training for an international sports event. His parents are very proud of him, but I have mixed feelings about this.
4. My [husband/wife/partner] has arranged for us to go on holiday with a group of friends. I'm a bit annoyed about this.
5. I have a friend who's studying English. he thinks the best way to improve his language skills is to watch lots of films in English. I'm not sure I agree with him.
6. My nephew has been saving up for a motorbike that he's planning to buy very soon. His parents are really worried about it.
7. My friend, who lives in a village, told me the local teenagers have been complaining that there's nothing for them to do. Perhaps something ought to be done about this.
8. I was thinking of changing my job, so I've looked into various courses. Now I don't know which course to choose.
9. My friend's children are not allowed to use computers or have mobile [phones. I've been trying to persuade her she's wrong.
10. My family says that I must throw away some of my old things. I'm finding this difficult.
11. My friend's been encouraging me to stop work and join her on a round-the-world trip. I'm in two minds about whether to go or not.
12. My brother is thinking about giving up his well-paid job and opening a restaurant. I'm not sure if it's a good idea.