



# For **or** against?



## Giving opinion



### Word bank

**apparently** – based on what you have heard or read

**What do you think about...?**

**How do you feel about...?** – asking about somebody's opinion

**fault** – mistake, responsibly

**be to blame for** – be responsible for

**in principle** – in theory

**issue** – a problem, a subject of discussion

**the point is** – the most important part of what I'm saying

**If you ask me / As far as I am concerned** – I personally believe

**If you know what I**

**Dave:** I read yesterday in the papers that three new state universities are opening soon.

**Brian:** **Apparently**, the government wants to increase the number of young people going to university. **What do you think about that?**

**Dave:** **Personally, I think** it's a good idea. People should have chance to go to university.

**Brian:** Maybe, but **it seems to me** that we need more people with manual skills, not more academics. And why haven't we got those people? It's the government's **fault**.

**Dave:** You think that the government **is to blame for** everything. But isn't it a good idea, **in principle**, for more young people to have better education?

**Brian:** Yes, I think education is an incredibly **important issue**, but **the point is**, what kind of education do we want young people to have?

**Dave:** **If you ask me**, that's a wonderful thing. The youngsters will choose what to study based on their interests.

**Brian:** **As far as I'm concerned**, university is not the only place where you can learn things. You can learn a lot without formal education, **if you know what I mean**.

**Dave:** **I believe that** having new universities is opening new possibilities for personal improvement, and other ways of education are **on the second place**.



## PRACTICE



### 1) Rewrite the opinions using the words in brackets. The meaning must be the same.

- a) I think it will be difficult. (EASY) *I don't think it will be easy.*
- b) I think we should do something. (SEEMS) \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) What do you think about that? (FEEL) \_\_\_\_\_.
- d) I think we should help them. (OPINION) \_\_\_\_\_.
- e) It's my fault. (BLAME) \_\_\_\_\_.

### 2) Complete the sentences using the mentioned phrases.

- a) As far as I am \_\_\_\_\_, the most important thing is to find the right university.
- b) We both agree on that, but the \_\_\_\_\_ is, what are we going to do with the unemployed?
- c) I think that climate change is one of the most important \_\_\_\_\_ of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- d) The manager is responsible for the delivery delay, so it is his \_\_\_\_\_.
- e) \_\_\_\_\_, nobody wants to invest in education nowadays.



### 3) Give your opinion on the given issues using the mentioned phrases.

- a) There will be more wars in future. \_\_\_\_\_.
- b) It is more expensive to live in a village than in the city. \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) Pop music is for kids. \_\_\_\_\_.
- d) CDs are not needed any more – you can download whatever you need.  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- e) Italian food is tasteless. \_\_\_\_\_.

### 4) Circle the right word or phrase.

- a) What do you think **of/about** my new car?
- b) It is not your **blame/fault**.
- c) It **looks/seems** to me that we need this.
- d) **Apparently/Personally**, they made a wrong choice.
- e) It is an important **issue/opinion**, but some talks are yet to be done.

