

## Society and Living Standards

### Task: The Impact of Cultural Diversity on Society

#### Activity 1: Listening

Welcome to a practice listening task for the ISE 2.

You are going to hear a talk about **the impact of cultural diversity on society**. You will hear the talk twice. The first time, just listen. Then I'll ask you to tell me generally what the speaker is talking about. Are you ready?

#### Audio Script

In spite of the fact that cultural diversity had been shaping human societies for centuries, it wasn't until the recent globalization that cultural differences became an increasingly important issue. As people from different cultural backgrounds came into contact with one another more frequently, conflicts arising from misunderstandings or cultural clashes became more common. It was reported that difficulties in communication and understanding due to language barriers had contributed to these conflicts. As a result, it became necessary to find ways to promote greater understanding, tolerance, and respect for cultural differences. Looking back, had we found ways to appreciate the richness and depth of different cultures, and had we fostered greater cross-cultural communication, the world might have been a more peaceful and harmonious place.

Although there are many advantages, we ought not to ignore the obvious drawbacks. One of the main disadvantages of cultural diversity is the possibility of conflicts arising from misunderstandings or cultural clashes. Values, beliefs, and customs are sustained by different cultures, which can create tension and misunderstandings between individuals or groups. Additionally, cultural diversity can lead to segregation and exclusion, where groups tend to stick to their own culture and not mix with others. This can lead to social fragmentation and a lack of cohesion in society. Also, cultural diversity can lead to discrimination and inequality, where individuals from certain cultural groups may be marginalized or oppressed. Finally, the language barriers have been causing difficulty in communication and understanding between individuals from different cultural groups, as messages have been getting lost or misinterpreted.

So to continue, let's talk about some of the advantages of cultural diversity. One major advantage of cultural diversity is the exchange of knowledge, ideas, and perspectives. Different cultures bring their unique experiences and knowledge, which can lead to new ways of thinking and problem-solving. Additionally, cultural diversity can enrich people's lives and provide new experiences and opportunities for personal growth. This can lead to greater creativity, innovation, and cultural understanding. Furthermore, cultural diversity can also promote social and economic development by creating new markets and opportunities for business and trade. Not to mention that it must be considered that exposure to cultural diversity can lead to increased tolerance, respect, and appreciation for different cultures and ways of life. Moreover, it should be noted that the loss of traditional cultural practices and customs due to assimilation into dominant culture means that communities are no longer able to participate in or carry out activities that they used to do.

Bottom line, cultural diversity has both advantages and disadvantages in society. Although there are some disadvantages, such as the potential for conflict and exclusion, the advantages of cultural diversity are numerous, including the exchange of knowledge, personal growth, and economic development. If I were in your shoes, I would consider embracing and celebrating cultural diversity. In this way, we may create a more inclusive and cohesive society where everyone can thrive.

Can you tell me in one or two sentences what the speaker was talking about?

Now listen to the talk again. This time make some notes as you listen, if you want to. Then I'll ask you to tell me the disadvantages and advantages of cultural diversity.

Now tell me the disadvantages and advantages of cultural diversity. You have one minute to talk.

This is the end of the listening task.

**Answers:**

Disadvantages:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Possibility of conflicts arising from misunderstandings or cultural clashes</li> <li>● Segregation and exclusion, leading to social fragmentation and lack of cohesion in society</li> <li>● Discrimination and inequality, marginalizing or oppressing individuals from certain cultural groups</li> <li>● Difficulty in communication and understanding due to language barriers</li> <li>● Loss of traditional cultural practices and customs due to assimilation into dominant culture</li> </ul>
Advantages:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Exchange of knowledge, ideas and perspectives from different cultures</li> <li>● Enrichment of people's lives and new experiences and opportunities for personal growth</li> <li>● Greater creativity, innovation, and cultural understanding</li> <li>● Promotion of social and economic development through new markets and opportunities</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased tolerance, respect, and appreciation for cultural diversity</li></ul>
--	---

Marks: +\_ / +10

## Activity 2: Reading

Find grammar in the audio script and highlight it, writing behind the grammar: For example:  
You must know that... = You **must [modal verb: must]** know that

Grammar list:

- Second conditional
- Simple passive
- Used to
- Relative clauses
- Modal verb: Must
- Modal verb: Should / Ought to
- Modal verb: May / Might
- Third conditional
- Present perfect continuous
- Past Perfect Simple
- Reported speech / Reported Verb
- Linking expressions: Although
- Linking expressions: In spite of / despite all
- Cohesive devices: So to continue,

Once you have found all the grammar, write down some vocabulary and ideas in the audioscript.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

### Activity 3: Writing

Write a report for your teacher (150 to 180 words) about cultural diversity where you live.

Piensa en qué tipo de ensayo

- Argumentative Essay → decir las ventajas y desventajas
- Discursive Essay → pide que informan sobre algo, con datos o información
- Descriptive essay → memoria, recuerdo, o experiencia

- >> Describe what type of cultural diversity there is
- >> Explain the what some of the problems are
- >> Suggest how to make improvements

Plan your writing with the grammar, writing format, and ideas from the writing prompt before starting.

### Activity 4: Speaking

Now, think about having a two minute conversation about: How can cultural diversity affect your life in both a negative and positive way? You can use ideas from the listening activity and/or add your own ideas.

What ideas can you use?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

What questions can you ask?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.