

Academic Word List advantages and disadvantages phrases practice**Worksheet 1 - Advantages and disadvantages phrases presentation**

Brainstorm suitable words to go in these gaps. Some words can go in more than one gap.

The _____ advantage

The _____ disadvantage

A/ An _____ advantage

A/ An _____ disadvantage

Match the words under the fold to those four gaps. Most can go more than one place.

-----fold, cover or cut-----

Great
Greatest
Insignificant
Main
Major
(Comparatively) minor
More important
Most significant
Only
Overwhelming
Possible
Potential
Significant

Brainstorm suitable vocabulary into these two categories:

What other words and expressions mean “advantage(s)”?

What other words and expressions mean “disadvantage(s)”?

Match the words and expressions below with those two meanings

- Argument against
- Argument for
- Argument in support
- Bad consequence
- Bad point
- Benefit
- Cons
- Drawback
- Good effect
- Good point
- Minus
- Negative aspect
- Plus
- Positive aspect
- Pro
- Selling point

Which ones usually go together? Which pair is not usually split up?

Were there any phrases that you brainstormed but are not above? Check with your teacher if they have those functions.

What phrases can you use to continue giving more advantages or disadvantages?

What phrases can you use to switch from talking about one side to talking about the other?

Which phrases can be used to come to a conclusion?

Match the phrases below the fold with those three meanings:

-----fold, cover or cut-----

..., but...

Despite all of this,...

Having looked at both sides of the argument,...

However,...

Looking at...

Nevertheless

On the other hand

The advantages outweigh the disadvantages

There are more pros than cons

We also have to take into account that...

...also...

Even though that is true

Furthermore

In addition,...

Moving on to...

Nonetheless

On the other side of the coin,...

Overall,...

What is more,...

We can balance against this...

Academic Word List looking at both sides

Choose one of the things below and take turns adding positive or negative aspects. You must use adding or contrasting phrases plus advantages and disadvantages phrases, and a different one each time. The first person to give up or repeat an idea or language loses.

- abstract art
- acquisition of domestic companies by foreign ones
- aid to developing countries
- allocation of uni places to minorities (= positive discrimination/ affirmative action)
- alternative fuels, e.g. biofuels
- automatic blocking of emails from unknown people that have large attachments
- being approachable
- biased media
- brevity
- bulky portable electronic devices
- challenging jobs
- classic literature
- continuous assessment
- designating conservation areas
- factory automation
- films with ambiguous endings
- free accommodation for homeless people
- government assistance for failing companies
- having an analytical personality
- increased availability of information on the Internet
- increased awareness of drug side effects
- investing in commodities
- listing attributes of an ideal mate
- living in small, close communities
- needing a majority of the voting public to vote in favour to amend the constitution
- not believing in coincidence
- online commentators
- putting information in appendices
- regular assignments for primary school children
- respect for authority
- teaching approximation skills
- teaching art appreciation in schools
- teaching communicative English in schools
- the ceaseless increase in computing power
- the collapse of the Soviet Union
- the desire to be in a committed relationship
- the increasing number of television channels
- tourism in previously inaccessible places
- training in affective skills in schools
- university entrance based solely on academic criteria
- use of analogies in academic writing
- welfare benefits

Are there any topics above which you think have just one side?