

Sit on the Fence

Idiom of the month

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1. Write 'A' for sentences that show agreement, 'D' for disagreement and 'NS' for not sure.

1. I totally agree with what you're saying right now.
2. You're 100% right of course.
3. I'm not sure really what to think.
4. You are totally wrong about this.
5. I'm afraid I don't agree at all.
6. I can understand where everyone's coming from to be honest.

2a. Read

I think we should wear our face masks all the time. It doesn't matter where we are or who we're with.

I'm not sure...

I don't agree at all. Sam, what do you think?

Come on, Sam! You can't always sit on the fence.

2b. Complete

It is so annoying when people won't express an opinion about important issues and just

People who 'sit on the fence' avoid taking sides during an argument or discussion.

3. Write 5 more things that are important issues right now.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| a. The COVID-19 global pandemic | d. |
| b. | e. |
| c. | f. |

4a. Work with a partner. Choose one of the important issues from ex.3. Write down how you think it affects our everyday lives.

For example:

COVID-19:

- Distance learning
- Social distancing
- Mental wellbeing
- Economic crisis

4b. Share your ideas with the rest of the class. Do they agree or disagree with your observations or just sit on the fence?

Teacher's Notes

1.

1 A 2A 3NS 4D 5D 6NS

2b.

It is so annoying when people won't express an opinion about important issues and just sit on the fence.

3.

Elicit examples such as:

Institutional racism; gender equality; global warming; children's rights; the economic crisis

Ask students to give you examples of why these issues are so important right now for example:

They affect our everyday lives, black people are unfairly treated, women do not get the same opportunities as men....

Get the students to think about how they can contribute to change/ the resolution/improvement of issues.

We must stop.... (+ present continuous form of the verb)

We can change the world by.... (+ present continuous form of the verb)

If we ...we will ... (first conditional phrases)

If wewe could... (second conditional phrases)

4.b.

Remind the rest the class to use some of the phrases from ex.1 when responding to the other students' presentations.