

UNIT 11 LANGUAGE SUMMARY

Adjectives

Describing consumer goods

authentic
counterfeit
deadly
fake
fireproof
genuine
illegal
imperfect
inferior
legal
original
second-rate
sophisticated

Degrees of truth

accurate
biased
controversial
dishonest
exaggerated
false
inaccurate
misleading
suspicious
trustworthy

Nouns

Degrees of truth

hoax
misinformation
rumor
urban legend
white lie

Insider English

the best / greatest thing since sliced bread

Glossary

the galaxy

Talking about fake goods

Counterfeit soccer jerseys were recently discovered by the U.S. government while they were being shipped to Texas.
They're not always made of safe materials.
Nobody is going to be helped by fake medicine.
It's unlikely that counterfeiting will be stopped.
The original products are being sold for over \$1,000.
We forget that somebody's creative ideas have been stolen.

Talking about untrue information

Misleading photos shouldn't be posted.
This kind of misinformation has to be stopped.
All online articles need to be checked.
I didn't expect to be laughed at.
The video seems to be made on a computer.

Expressing belief and disbelief

Expressing belief

... , believe it or not.
I'm absolutely positive (that) ...

Expressing disbelief

Yeah, right!
Tell me another one.
I find that hard to believe.
There's no truth in it/that.

Expressing some belief

Maybe there's some truth in it.
It's/That's partly true.

Writing a persuasive essay

Using persuasive language

A persuasive essay usually has three or four paragraphs:

Introduction: Gives your position on the topic.

Body (one or two paragraphs): Support your position with facts and examples. May also give the opposite position and say why it is not true.

Conclusion: Restates your position and main points. A strong concluding statement makes your reader agree with you.

Useful persuasive language:

Give your opinion (I firmly believe that ... , I strongly believe that ... , I feel that ...)
Give facts (According to ... , Research shows that ...)
Give personal examples (When I used/tried ... , One time I ...)
Give the opposite position (Although some will say that ... , Although many people ... , While it's true that ...)

Useful phrases

... , believe it or not.
I find that hard to believe.
It's partly true.
Maybe there's some truth in it.
Tell me another one!

UNIT 12 LANGUAGE SUMMARY

Adjectives

Skill and performance

analytical
artistic
athletic
competent
determined
gifted
imaginative
intellectual
logical
musical
skilled
talented
technical
trained

Verbs

Describing emotional impact

be a (real) downer
brighten up sth
capture sb's imagination
do sb good
get sb down
leave a lasting impression on sb
make sb's day
put sb's mind at rest
raise sb's spirits
ruin sb's day
stress sb out
take sb's mind off sth

Insider English

by / through word of mouth

Glossary

encore
headlining act
steadier
unload

Talking about talent

You have to practice something for 10,000 hours to become truly good at it.

But it's not necessarily true.

So he didn't play especially well at first.

Drawing never came particularly easily to me.

Discussing how to make life better

Listen to a great piece of music while getting dressed.

Have a cup of coffee and a cookie in the afternoon.

Change my desktop wallpaper to a beautiful work of art.

Stick an inspirational quote or a great piece of advice on the fridge.

A little bit of kindness can really make someone's day.

Describing ambition

Describing ambitions

My dream scenario would be to ...

My ultimate goal is to ...

I'm determined to ...

Expressing optimism

I'm confident (that) ...

There's no harm in trying.

I see no reason why I can't ...

Expressing caution

I realize things might not go as planned.

There's no guarantee (that) ...

I can't say for certain (that) ...

Writing a review of a performance

Showing reason and result

The show was a huge success because of / due to the talented musicians.

The lighting and special effects were terrific, so the behind-the-scenes crew clearly did a great job.

It all helped to make the concert feel spectacular.

Everyone was disappointed when the show was over, and they shouted for more. Consequently / Therefore / As a result, Sanz performed an encore, which really made our day.

Useful phrases

I'm determined to ...

I'm fairly talented at ...

I'm more analytical / artistic ...

My ultimate goal is to ...