

Skill 2 Presenting the Information

Your task is to show how information in the lecture challenges or supports information in the reading. You should NOT give your opinion. You should only compare and contrast the main ideas of the reading passage with those of the lecture.

Lecture challenges the reading

- How are the main ideas different?
- Do they challenge the ideas in the reading?
- Do they answer problems in the reading?

Lecture supports the reading

- How are the main ideas similar?
- Do they support the reading?
- Do they add more information to the reading?

Example

In the reading passage and lecture on solar energy from Skill 1, the information in the lecture challenges the information in the reading.

Reading	Lecture
Main Ideas	Main Ideas
1. solar energy abundant and cheap	1. expensive to install system
2. doesn't cause pollution	2. can't be used everywhere
3. available everywhere	3. solar panels don't look nice

- **How are the main ideas different?** The reading passage discussed the advantages of using solar energy, and the lecture discusses the disadvantages.
- **Do they challenge the ideas in the reading?** The lecture challenges the ideas in the reading passage by pointing out the problems with solar energy.
- **Do they answer problems in the reading?** No, there are no problems presented in the reading passage.

Tip

Remember: the verbs *challenge* and *support* have opposite meanings. When you see *challenge*, you will have to show how the two disagree. When you see *support*, you will have to show how they agree. The phrase *cast doubt on* is similar in meaning to *challenge*.

Practice

Go back to your notes in Skill 1. Read the questions below for each reading passage and lecture. Draw a line in your notes between the ideas in the lecture and the ideas in the reading that support or challenge the reading. Not all ideas will be connected.

Example

Question: Summarize the points made in the lecture, and explain how they challenge the points made in the reading.

Reading

Lecture

Main Ideas

Main Ideas

1. solar energy abundant and cheap

1. expensive to install system

2. doesn't cause pollution

2. can't be used everywhere

3. available everywhere

3. solar panels don't look nice

1. Reading 1 and Lecture 1

Question: Summarize the points made in the lecture, and explain how they strengthen the points made in the reading.

2. Reading 2 and Lecture 2

Question: Summarize the points made in the lecture, and explain how they cast doubt on the points made in the reading.

3. Reading 3 and Lecture 3

Question: Summarize the points made in the lecture, and explain how they support the points made in the reading.

4. Reading 4 and Lecture 4

Question: Summarize the points made in the lecture, and explain how they answer the problems described in the reading.