

College of Education for Humanities
Department of English
Second Stage / Composition
Code: vpz3okz

Assistant Lecturer
Noor Hazim

Assistant Lecturer
Amina Muhammed

Expressing Opinions

Definition of Opinion

- An opinion is the way you feel or think about something.
- It is a belief or attitude that a person has formed about a topic or issue. It isn't based on facts.

How to express your opinion?

1- Using transitions

When you speak, you introduce opinions with phrases like “I think”, “ in my opinion” and “ I believe”. In general, these phrases are not needed in writing. They can even make you sound less sure of your ideas.

2- Using modal auxiliaries

Modal auxiliary verbs show the strength of a writer's opinion or argument.

AFFIRMATIVE:

The city

could
should
ought to
has to / must

add more cycle paths.

weakest
▼
strongest

NEGATIVE:

The city

doesn't have to
shouldn't
can't / must not

allow more cars.

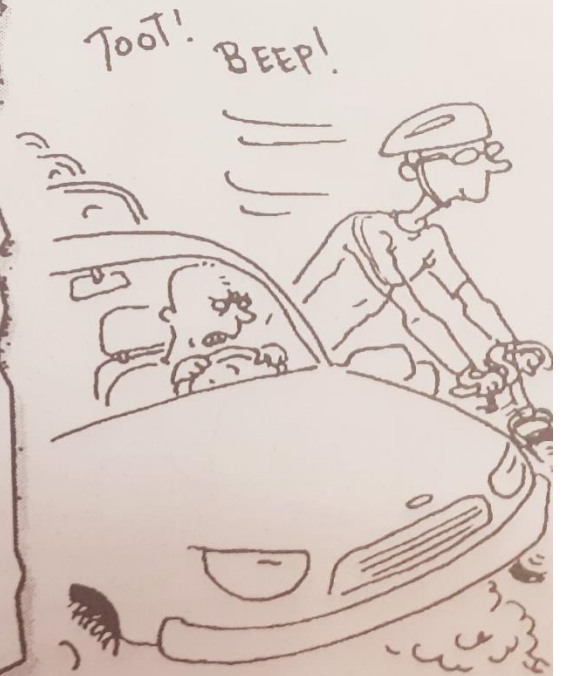
weakest
▼
strongest

8 Read the paragraph below. Circle the most appropriate modal auxiliary in each sentence.

Dear Editor,

I agree with Bill Adams's opinion in his recent letter saying that people ^a *should / don't have to* ride their bicycles into town. However, there is one problem with this idea. The roads in town are so narrow and full of cars that you ^b *can't / ought to* ride safely on them. If people are going to ride bicycles into town, the city ^c *could / must* make some bike paths for people to use. Maybe the city ^d *could / mustn't* charge a small additional tax on fuel to pay for the bike paths. Motorists have created the problem, so motorists ^e *could / should* pay for the solution. The city ^f *ought to / doesn't have to* support cyclists like Bill Adams by building more bike paths.

Melissa Green
Parkville



3- Using causal adverbs

Because, since and *so* are causal adverbs. They join two ideas when one idea causes or explain the other. *Because and since* introduce the cause or reason, and *so* and *therefore* introduce the effect or result.



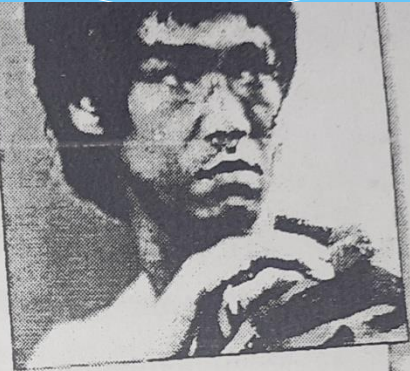
Now check the following examples:

(1) *Because* gasoline is becoming expensive, we should develop electric cars.

(2) We should develop electric cars *since* gasoline is becoming expensive.

(3) gasoline is becoming expensive, *so* we should develop electric cars.

13 Complete this opinion paragraph using *because* or *since*, *so*, or *Therefore*. Add punctuation where necessary.



Bruce Lee (1940–1973), the greatest action movie star of all time, should be given a lifetime achievement award for his work in the movies. Bruce died tragically in 1973 ^a *So* he wouldn't be able to receive the award himself, but his fans all over the world would love to see him honored. Why was Bruce Lee so great? The fight scenes in his films were amazing ^b *because* Bruce was always in top physical condition. His body was almost perfect. He was also a great actor. ^c *Because* he started acting when he was just six years old, he was very comfortable and natural in front of the camera. His face was very expressive ^d *So* he was able to communicate a lot of feeling with a simple look. Bruce always looked good on film ^e *Since* he was so charming. Bruce Lee was a talented actor, a brilliant fighter, and an almost perfect example of physical fitness. ^f *Therefore,* he should receive an award that recognizes his great contribution to the art of film making.

Agreeing and Disagreeing with an Opinion

We use the following words and phrases to agree with someone else's point of view :

- Of course
- Yes, I agree
- So do I
- That's true

- * We use the following words and phrases to disagree with someone else's point of view :
 - I disagree with you
 - On the contrary



Homework

15 Look again at the opinions that were expressed in exercise 9 on page 36. Complete these sentences in your notebook with your own ideas about these opinions. Use appropriate punctuation.

a. Because

b. since

c. so

d. Since

e. because

f. Therefore



Thank You