

# 12 Society

## Unit Focus

• Elections • Education • Law

### Unit overview

Unit components	Focus	TOEIC® practice	Duration
Snapshot	Law courts; voting; school; police	Part 1	15–25 mins
Grammar Check 1	Words expressing contrast	Part 6	30 mins
Listening 1	Civic conversations	Part 3	20–30 mins
Vocabulary Builder	Collocations	Part 6	15–20 mins
Listening 2	Tribal law	Part 4	15–25 mins
Grammar Check 2	Subjunctives: formal language in the U.S.	Part 5	30 mins
Viewpoint	To kill an avatar	Part 7	30 mins
Listening 3	Debating phrases	Part 2	15–20 mins
Communication	Debate: virtual violence		40 mins
		<b>Total</b>	3 hrs 30–4 hrs 10

### Snapshot

#### Aims

- TOEIC® Part 1 practice: picture analysis
- Vocabulary development: law courts; voting; education; law enforcement
- Discussion

The pictures present a few examples of legal and civil institutions within society: a law court, voting at a polling station, students in a classroom, policemen.

### Picture descriptions

#### Picture 1

The picture shows an “Open Court” in Rangpur, India. The Open Court is an *alternative system of justice* that *settles local disputes* and provides *legal council* to people living in rural areas. Two court *officials* are sitting at a table facing a group of people who appear to be sitting on the ground. Behind the men, there is a large tree from which is hanging a sign that reads “Open Court, Rangpur”.

#### Picture 2

In this picture, we see people at a *polling station* in a school gym. Several people are sitting at a table. On the table there are two *ballot boxes* with different coloured *ballots* in them. There were probably two different elections taking place on this day. On the left, a woman

is looking on while on the right, a woman is *filling out a form*. In the background there are gym wall bars.

#### Picture 3

This picture shows a school *classroom*. The young students are sitting at their *desks* with their books open. Some of them are *raising their hands* in order *to be called on* by the teacher / instructor, who is standing next to a *blackboard*.

#### Picture 4

In this picture, we see two *police officers* on *bicycles* at a *public market* in Seattle in the U.S. Police in this region *patrol* public areas on bicycles, on foot, and sometimes on horses. They *ensure security*, *enforce the law* and *provide assistance* to the *public*. They are *in uniform* and are wearing helmets and sunglasses.

### Answers

#### A

- 1 People are attending a court session outdoors.
- 2 The people are at a polling station.
- 3 Young students are attending school.
- 4 Two police officers are on bicycle patrol near a market.

#### B

- 1 E, J
- 2 D, H
- 3 I, L
- 4 B, K

## AUDIOSCRIPT

## B

- A The schoolchildren are clapping their hands.
- B The law enforcement officers are on patrol.
- C The candidate is making a speech.
- D The people are at a polling station.
- E The court session is held outside.
- F The police are writing out a traffic ticket.
- G The lawyers are meeting in the court house.
- H A woman is filling out a form.
- I The instructor is calling on the students.
- J The court officials are facing the people.
- K The policemen are riding bicycles.
- L Some students are raising their hands.

## Grammar Check 1

## Aims

- TOEIC® Part 6 practice: text completion
- Grammar point: complex sentences
- Vocabulary development: words expressing contrast
- Discussion

This section begins with an inductive presentation of words expressing contrast. In exercise A, students identify the contrast words and the way they are used in different types of sentences. In exercise B, students use contrast words to form sentences. In exercise C, students then practice a Part 6 text completion and correction exercise.

There are three basic categories of words that express contrast:

- *Although, even though, while, whereas* begin dependent clauses that must be linked to an independent clause in order to make a complete sentence.
- *In spite of, despite* begin noun phrases that must be linked to an independent clause.
- *But, yet, however* begin independent clauses. They can form compound sentences (two linked independent clauses) and they can show contrast between two separate sentences.

In Part 6, TOEIC® will often test a student's ability to determine which contrast word is needed to form a complete sentence. Students need to determine whether the section of the sentence is a clause or a phrase.

*Although / Even though it was raining, we had a picnic in the park.*

*Despite / In spite of the rain, we had a picnic in the park.*

In the first sentence, the two-part sentence begins with a clause (noun + verb).

The second sentence begins with a noun phrase.

The theme of the activity is voting and elections. In the U.S., voters can cast their ballots either in person or by mail. In order to vote by mail, a voter must first be registered to vote and must obtain an absentee ballot. In some other countries, a voter who cannot go to the polls will sign over his vote to another voter, who will vote for him. This is called *voting by procuration*. Students might find the following topic-related vocabulary useful:

<i>citizen</i>	<i>the right to vote</i>
<i>to register (to vote)</i>	<i>election</i>
<i>a newcomer</i>	<i>legislators</i>
<i>laws</i>	<i>police</i>
<i>to enforce</i>	<i>referendum</i>
<i>at the polls</i>	<i>candidate</i>
<i>absentee ballot</i>	<i>observers</i>
<i>to monitor</i>	<i>citizenship</i>
<i>(someone's) voice</i>	<i>guidelines</i>
<i>application</i>	<i>witness</i>
<i>notary</i>	<i>widespread corruption</i>

## Answers

## A

- 1 but, in spite of, *although*, despite, even though, *whereas*, yet
- 2 in spite of, *despite*
- 3 but, *however*, yet

## B

- 1 *Even though* the new candidate has less experience, I've decided to vote for her.
  - 2 Some people like to vote in person, *whereas* others prefer using an absentee ballot.
  - 3 *Despite* (the) many observers monitoring the elections, there was widespread corruption.
- Other contrast words: (1) Although (2) while (3) In spite of

## C

- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| 1 even though | 4 Although |
| 2 Even if     | 5 whereas  |
| 3 however     |            |

## DISCUSSION

This section focuses on the voting practices in the U.S. You may want to extend this into a discussion about voting with the following questions.

What is the percentage of people who actually vote in national and local elections? Some people feel that voting is more than a civic right, arguing that voting is a civic duty. Would students agree?