Worksheet

Stage 1: Knowledge-testing and consciousness-raising

1. **Look at the sample article from a candidate. What do you think of the vocabulary used? Please discuss with your partner and answer the following questions.**

The graph below gives information about cinema attendance in Australia between 1990 and the present, with projections to 2010. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons with relevant. Write at least 150 words.
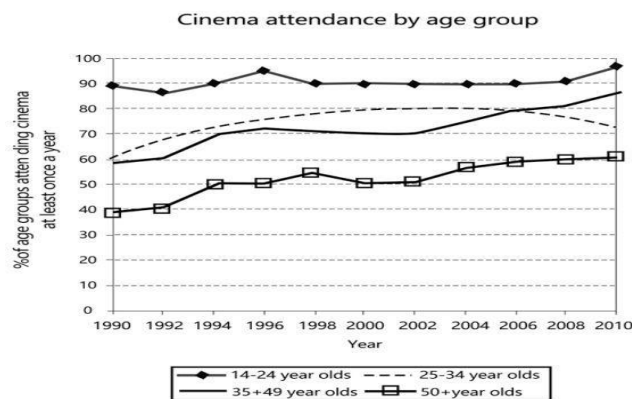
Cinema attendance by age group

The graph shows percentages of people attending the cinema at least once a year in Australia between 1990 to 2010 with projections for the future. The graph is described by 4 groups of people with different ages which are 14 to 24, 25 to 34, 35 to 49, and over 50 years old.

The youngest people have been going to the cinema more than any other people and the percentage has been keeping very high at approximately 90% since 1990. It is predicted to keep the high and to increase more from 2006.

People in the middle age groups have enjoyed going to the cinema between 60% to 80%. The percentage of people of age 25 to 34 has been higher than the people of age 35 to 49 group but from 2006 the percentage of 25 to 34 years old people will decrease while 35 to 49 years old people will increase and get higher than the people in the other groups.

The old people seem to go to the cinema less than other people but the percentage of their attendance has slightly gone up by 15% from 40% to 55% between 1990 to 2004 and it will keep increasing to 60% by 2010.

Overall, young people seem more likely to go to the cinema but old people are not.

❓ Questions:

1) How many 'people' are there in the article? _____

2) Do you think he/she did a good job? If not, which criterion has he/she violated?

_____

3) Can you think of any words that can substitute the word 'people'? Write them down.

_____   _____   _____   _____

_____   _____   _____   _____

4) Can all these words be used to replace any of the 14 cases of 'people' in this article?

Stage 2: Hands-on corpus search and inductive discovery (25 minutes)

1. **Step 1: Introduce the basic function: 'List' and 'Sections'**

    ❓ **Questions:**

    1) How many sections are there?

    2) Which section should we focus on now?

    3) What do the numbers mean?
    A. Times of the usages   B. Pages

    4) Which one is the most common section for 'people'?

    5) How do you know?

2. **Step 2: Introduce the core function in this lesson of finding near-synonym**
    ❓ **Questions:**

    1) What is the most used synonym of 'people'?

    2) What is the most used synonym of 'people' in academic section?

    3) Is there an easier way to find out the most used synonym in academic section?

3. **Step 3: Introduce the sub-menu of 'Sections' in the academic context**
    ❓ Questions:
    1) What is the most used synonymy of 'people' in academic section?

    2) What is the most used synonymy of 'people' in magazine section?

    3) What are the advantages of two search methods in step 2 and 3?

    4) Can these words replace 'people' in the first paragraph?

4. **Step 4: Introduce the concordance lines from frequency to compare 'people' and 'public'**
   ❗ **Questions:**
   1) From the concordance lines, is 'public' an appropriate substitution here? Why or why not?

   2) What are the suitable substitutions in first paragraph?

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5. **Step 5: Practice to reinforce the functions just taught**
1) **Replace the 'people' in this paragraph.**

The young people have been going to the cinema more than any other people and the percentage has been keeping very high at approximately 90% since 1990. It is predicted to keep the high and to increase more from 2006.

   ❗ **Questions:**
   1) Is replacing the word the only way to improve the variety of 'young people'?

   2) What can we do to replace the phrase 'young people'?

6. **Step 6: Advanced function - modifying the key words**
   ❗ **Questions:**
   1) What are the suitable collocations to replace old people in this article?

   2) Try to replace the collocation 'young people' by yourself.

7. <u>Step 7: Practice to check their understanding</u>

1) Replace the 'people' or the related phrases in this paragraph.

The old people seem to go to the cinema less than other people but the percentage of their

attendance has slightly gone up by 15% from 40% to 55% between 1990 to 2004 and it will keep

increasing to 60% by 2010.

2) Group discussion

After the exploration of these functions of BNC, what do you think are the benefits of the corpus, compared with the dictionary?

Stage 3: semi-controlled practice and consolidation

1. Replace the 'people' or the related phrases in rest of the paragraphs.

People in the middle age groups have enjoyed going to the cinema between 60% to 80%. The percentage of people of age 25 to 34 has been higher than the people of age 35 to 49 group but from 2006 the percentage of 25 to 34 years old people will decrease while 35 to 49 years old people will increase and get higher than the people in the other groups.

Overall, young people seem more likely to go to the cinema but old people are not.

2. **Discuss your answers with your partner**

Stage 4: free output

1. **Have a look at the sample essay you have and use the BNC corpus to improve the vocabulary variety in his/her essay. Use the check boxes on the right to help you and Replace them in the essay.**

Some people think that they can learn better by themselves than with a teacher. Others think that it is always better to have a teacher. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons to develop your essay.

It is certainly said that learning is an ongoing process. Every people learns something new according to their age, experience, knowledge and education. According to my point of view it is always better to have a teacher for study.

One teacher has adequate knowledge to teach his/her students. He knows all the possible ways to make subject easier for the students, moreover, he teaches them in an effective manner. For example, some students are weak in some subjects but a teacher always guides them according to their mental capacity. Some people can learn better in group by discussing the topics with others. People can know how we can learn effectively in class, where the teacher always gives an easy direction to learn.

…
In sum up, I would like to say that it is always better for the people to have a teacher because a teacher has good knowledge, experience and is educated how to teach others. People will learn from a teacher in an easier way rather than on their own.

☐ **Find out which word(s) are overused.**

_____

_____

☐ **Find out the most used synonymies of this word in academic section.**

_____

_____

☐ **Analyze which synonymies can replace the overused word.**

_____

_____

2) Share what you have done in front of the class