

National identity cards

Task 1 – Looking at identity cards

Look at the information in the box and tick the ones that appear on your own ID card or passport.

<i>First Name</i>	<i>Surname</i>	<i>Your photo</i>	<i>Your signature</i>
<i>Place of birth</i>	<i>Date of birth</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Phone number</i>
<i>Personal identity number</i>	<i>Issue date</i>	<i>Marital status</i>	<i>A fingerprint</i>
<i>Sex</i>	<i>Parents' names</i>	<i>Parents' occupations</i>	<i>Address</i>

- If you have an ID card, is there any other information on your ID card that isn't included in the table?
- Do you think any other information should be included on an ID card?
- Are ID cards in your country compulsory or optional?

Task 2 – Pronunciation Focus

Check with your teacher the pronunciation of these sounds: /ai/ and /ə/.

Put these twelve words into the correct column in the table, according to the sound that is underlined.

<i><u>D</u>ate</i>	<i>broth<u>e</u>rs</i>	<i>occu<u>p</u>ation</i>	<i>stat<u>u</u>s</i>	<i>signat<u>u</u>re</i>	<i>finger<u>p</u>rint</i>	<i>nam<u>e</u></i>
<i><u>A</u>ddress</i>	<i>Plac<u>e</u></i>	<i>Dat<u>e</u> of birth</i>	<i>Surnam<u>e</u></i>	<i>Sist<u>e</u>rs</i>		

TRAIN /ai /	COMPUTER /ə/

Task 3 – ID card – Find someone who...

Speak to the other students in the class and find somebody who confirms the following. When they confirm it, ask an additional question to get more information from them.

Eg. "Have you ever lost your ID card?"

"Yes I have."

"How did you lose it?" (Question for extra information)

"My bag was stolen on a train last year."

Find somebody who...	Name.	Extra information
...has lost their ID card or passport		
...thinks ID cards aren't necessary		
...has had to show their ID card to someone this week		
...has had to show their ID card to someone this month		
...likes their photo on their ID card or passport		
...hates their photo on their ID card of passport		

Task 4 – ID cards in the UK – 2 case studies

Read the case studies of two young people in the UK and answer the questions that follow.

Rachel's View

I think it's crazy that we don't have ID cards in Britain! I've studied in France and Spain and none of my friends there could believe we don't have any official form of identification. I don't even have a photo on my driving license! I've always looked young for my age, so have always had trouble getting served in pubs and getting into night-clubs. No one used to believe I was eighteen! I could show them my driving license that had my date of birth on; but as it didn't have a photo everyone thought it was someone

else's. I used to have to carry my passport with me to prove I was over eighteen. Now I'm a bit older I don't have so many problems but it would be easier for everyone if we had ID cards. Apart from being useful for proving who you are for everyday things, like joining video clubs or health centre, I think they will also help to reduce the crime levels in this country. I'm disappointed that the government aren't going to introduce them. They seemed to talk about it a lot before, especially after all the terrorist attacks, so I hope they change their minds...."

Nick's View

I hate the thought of having to carry an ID card and I totally agree with the new government's plans to scrap this idea. How can a government force us to carry one at all times? We should be free to go where we want, when we want and do what we want without having to prove who we are. They should trust us to respect the laws and the rules of the country. It's an invasion of our personal privacy forcing us to have an identity card. They put photos on the new European driving licenses now so why do we need an ID card? The supporters forget to tell you that only some of the European countries have compulsory identity cards. If big countries like the USA and Australia don't need them, why do we? It would cost a lot of money; that we, the taxpayers, would have to pay for. It scares me a bit that Big Brother wants to watch us so carefully. A little bit too carefully for my liking!"

- Who do you agree with more?
- Do you think Rachel has a point about reducing crime rates?
- What do you think about what Nick says about 'Big Brother'?

Task 5 – Role play

You are now going to take the role of Rachel or Nick and discuss your views on introducing ID cards to the UK. Before you start, your teacher will give you some phrases to study.

Task 6 – Famous identity card – Information gap

Work in pairs. One of you is A and the other B. Have a look at your ID card. Ask your partner questions to complete the information on the card.