

Functional Skills English | Level 1 Reading | Specialist Words in Context (explain the quotation)

Read the following excerpts. Explain what each quotation from the text means in your own words. Try not to use the words in the quotations.

1. When you are out, it is also possible to avoid noisy places. When booking a table at a restaurant, ask if they have a quiet area and don't worry about asking the staff to turn down the music if you can't hear what your friend is saying. Trains often have a quiet carriage where phones must be kept on silent mode and conversations held quietly.

Silent mode

2. It is estimated that office workers lose over an hour a day of work time due to being distracted. To avoid distractions, wear headphones so that your colleagues know you do not want to be disturbed. You can listen to an app that plays a special background noise so that you can focus on work instead.

Background noise

3. One of the most exciting retail trends over the last few years has been the growth of pop-up shops in vacant buildings. These shops aim to attract customers with something different, surprising and exciting.

Pop-up shop

4. To continue expanding, we need to follow current trends. People who follow fashion order what they see on television, films and social media. Last year, we saw a 1,000% increase in demand for knitwear and sales of blue shirts went up by 400%. Following the Tour de France there was a 300% increase in the sale of designer trainers.

Current Trends

5. Whatever your situation, whatever is holding you back, the National Careers Service is here to help you overcome any difficulties and reach your potential.

Reach your potential

6. There have also been complaints about how stars are awarded. A former inspector insists it is impossible for them to visit all the restaurants described in the book. He says the guide shows favouritism to French cooking and only includes posh restaurants. Other people complain that it is unfair that Japan has more starred restaurants than any other country.

Shows favouritism

7. Expensive must mean it's good' isn't always true! I have found many expensive restaurants to be simply overpriced. More important is 'value for money'. Y

Value for money

8. Finding a new place to live wasn't easy, as all the two-bedroom houses in my area were too expensive and the bungalow I viewed with the estate agent was gloomy and damp. Most of the properties didn't have shops within walking distance.

Walking distance