

Information Units (I.U.s)

An information unit [I.U.] is a single piece of information, a single unit of knowledge. I.U.s include, for example, the name of a person, place or concept. An I.U. could also be a fact, a definition, or an example.

1. Identifying I.U.s:

- a. Chunk this sentence: put a slash [/] on the transcript to indicate the I.U.s.

OK. I want us to imagine that we've just walked past Fitzbilies cake shop and we're walking towards Corpus Christi College, and we'll stop here for a minute.

- b. Chunk the whole transcript (Appendix 1a): put a slash [/] on the transcript to indicate I.U.s.
c. Mark the main and supporting ideas, transitions, redundancies, etc. in the text.

2. Using I.U.s

This tour guide's commentary contains 14 I.U.s.

Return to your notes and score yourself on the Guided Tour of Corpus Christi College. [see Appendix 2]

+1 for including the information

0 if the information is missing

-1 if the information is wrong

Divide your score by 14 and multiply it by 5. What's your score out of 5? Compare with others in your group.

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Review and reflections on note-taking

Discuss with a partner

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| a) Chunking a text is easy | agree / neutral / disagree |
| b) Taking notes as a list of I.U.s is easy | agree / neutral / disagree |
| c) Collaborating helps to fill in the gaps | agree / neutral / disagree |
| d) It's better to write more, not less, when note-taking | agree / neutral / disagree |

LESSON 2.

Can-do: *Can you make accurate and complete notes while listening to a tour guide and summarise the information?*

Goal: Informing peers about places of interest

Input: Audio tour guide commentary

Output: Notes and an oral / written summary

Focus: Note-taking and using *Information Units* [IU's] to summarise the information



SCENARIO

You've listened to an audio guide about one higher education institution and learned some fascinating details. You took notes while listening and now want to share this information with a friend who may not know much about it. Using your notes, you're ready to explain what makes this institution interesting.

Discussing notes

Group-work

- Working in groups, compare your notes of the tour guide commentary.
- Use the grid of I.U.s and compare it with your notes to score yourself.
- Compare your scores in the group.

Sharing information using your notes

Pair-work

Tell your friend what you learnt about one higher education institution. You can only use your notes. Take notes while listening to your friend's talk about another institution.

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Discussing what you learnt from your partner

Group-work

- Working in groups, share what you have just learnt from your friend.
- Compare your notes and fill in the gaps.

