

DESCRIBING ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

B2-C1 | Functional language for evaluating strengths and drawbacks

1 Useful phrase patterns

Use these phrases to evaluate the strengths and drawbacks of an option clearly.

A key advantage is ...

A key advantage is greater flexibility.

One benefit is ...

One benefit is lower running costs.

A major strength is ...

A major strength is its speed.

A possible drawback is ...

A possible drawback is the training needed.

One limitation is ...

One limitation is the lack of data.

The main disadvantage is ...

The main disadvantage is the risk.

This could lead to ...

This could lead to delays.

On the other hand, ...

It's costly. On the other hand, it saves time.

2 Respond to the situations

Write one point about a strength or drawback in each situation. Try to use a range of phrases.

1. Evaluate remote working for a company.

2. Evaluate replacing old equipment with new technology.

3. Evaluate using an online survey for customer feedback.

4. Evaluate launching a product in a new market quickly.

5. Evaluate a plan with little available data.

6. Evaluate cutting costs by reducing staff training.

7. Evaluate introducing a new system during a busy period.

8. Evaluate investing in public transport.

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B2-C1 | Suggested answers

3 Possible answers

These are examples only. Other accurate and suitable responses are also correct.

Encourage students to use a range of phrase patterns from page 1.

1. A key advantage of remote working is greater flexibility for staff.

2. One benefit of new technology is lower running costs over time.

3. A major strength of an online survey is that it collects feedback quickly.

4. A possible drawback is that a quick launch may create avoidable problems.

5. One limitation is the lack of reliable data for the decision.

6. The main disadvantage is that reduced training can lower service quality.

7. This could lead to delays while staff learn the new system.

8. Public transport needs investment; on the other hand, it may reduce congestion.
