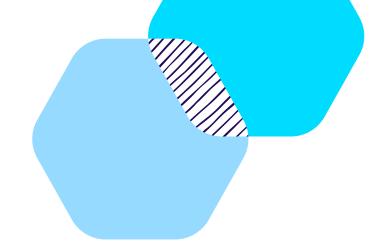


From Conflict to Peace Upper Secondary B2







### Task 1

Read about one group/political party who took part in the Northern Ireland peace talks. Then, tell your group who they are and what they wanted.

#### **Group A: Unionists**

#### Who are they?

Unionists wanted Northern Ireland to remain part of the UK. Unionist communities had greater representation in Northern Ireland politics. There were more Unionists than Nationalists in Northern Ireland. Unionists tend to be protestant but not always.

#### What did they want?

To remain part of the UK. They wanted to continue being British citizens and did not want Northern Ireland's place in the UK to be threatened.

### **Group B: Nationalists**

### Who are they?

Nationalists wanted a united Ireland. They also wanted the same access as Unionists to housing, employment and in Northern Ireland politics. Nationalists are often catholic but not always.

#### What did they want?

To create a united Ireland in which Northern Ireland and Ireland becomes one country. They wanted the right to identify as Irish. They also wanted to have equal rights and political representation, housing, and employment as Unionists. They wanted police reforms.

### **Group C: UK and Irish Governments**

### Who are they?

During the time of the peace talks, Tony Blair was Prime Minister of the UK and Bertie Ahern was the Taoiseach ('ti:ʃəx) of Ireland.

### What did they want?

Both governments wanted an end to the conflict and violence in Northern Ireland. They wanted the status of Northern Ireland to reflect the wishes of the majority of its people and for politics to be conducted through democratic and non-violent means.

## **Group D: The Northern Ireland Women's Coalition (NIWC)**

### Who are they?

A small cross-community party founded by a Catholic academic (Monica McWilliams) and a Protestant social worker (Pearl Sagar). It did not take a position on whether Northern Ireland should be part of the UK or a united Ireland. All members were women from different political, religious, and social backgrounds.

#### What did they want?

An end to conflict and violence in Northern Ireland and for all political parties (big and small) to be included in the peace process. It believed that parties should talk to each other and that everyone should be involved in decision-making.

**Discussion question:** Based on the wants and needs of each group, what do you think the key areas of conflict were? Use the useful language below to help you.



It seems that some areas of the conflict included...

Based on what I've learned, I would say these were...

I totally agree with you.

We should also consider...

I'm not convinced

- i. Do you know of any other similar conflicts/situations in other places?
- ii. **Discussion:** Based on the wants and needs of each group, what do you think the key negotiation points were?
- iii. **From Conflict to Peace:** Finding a solution to end decades of violence and conflict and bring lasting peace was not easy. Many things needed to be done. Match the first half of the sentence in column A to the second half in column B.

A	В
1. Brave decisions	a. new ones made.
2. Enemies would have to meet and	b. agree to compromise.
3. Old laws would have to be changed and	c. would need to be made.
4. Communities would have to work together to	d. make peace a reality and overcome differences.

iv. Collocations: Which word/phrase does not match the word in the hexagon? Cross it out.

an irregular		to arrive at		to resolve		
a brave		to take		to settle		
an informed	Decision	to reach	a compromise	to overcome	Differences	
a wise		to strike		to beat		



### Task 2

Think about a time when you had to reach a compromise with someone.

- i. Who did you have to compromise with?
- ii. What did you compromise about?
- iii. Was it easy to reach a compromise?
- iv. What did you have to give up?
- v. What was the outcome?

Now tell your classmates!

### **The Language of Peace**

Match the categories below to the phrases.

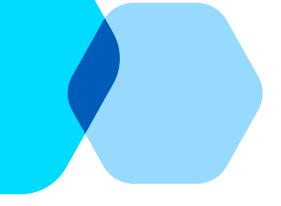
Reaching an agreement

**Checking that you have understood** 

**Making concessions** 

Showing that you are actively listening

1	2
I hear what you're saying.	If I'm not mistaken, you're saying that
Thank you for those points.	Do you mean that?
It sounds like what's most important to you is + noun/verbing.	Could I just check what you mean by + noun/verbing?
3	4
I'm willing to meet you in the middle and	So, in summary, we have agreed to + verb.
	So, in summary, we have agreed to + verb.  It seems that we have reached an agreement that
I'm willing to meet you in the middle and	So, in summary, we have agreed to + verb.



### Task 3

An arcade in the centre of Belfast has become available and needs to be converted into a building that serves the community. You are attending a community planning meeting to discuss how the building should be used.

Read your role card and what you want to use the building for. Propose your idea at the meeting but remember that you must all reach a compromise.



Jonathan Stewar

### Student A: You are an environmental activist.

You want to demolish the arcade and build a community garden with lots of trees and plants. Allotments would be provided for a reasonable price so that local people who don't have gardens can grow their own vegetables. There would also be a park for all members of the community to enjoy.

### Student C: You are a local businessperson.

You want to use the arcade as a food factory. This would generate about 200 jobs in the area and core ingredients would be sourced from local farmers.

### Student B: You are a local artist.

You want to use the arcade as a gallery where local artists can display and sell their work. There would be free art classes and art therapy for the whole community. The space would also function as a small concert hall and theatre where gigs and plays could be held.

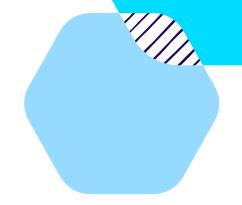
### Student D: You are a member of a youth group.

You want to use the arcade as low-cost but quality housing for students. The halls of residences would have a library, a gym, and a canteen. Local students would have priority, but it will also accommodate students from other locations.



### Reflection:

- 1. What did you end up using the arcade for?
- 2. Was it easy or difficult to reach a compromise?
- 3. Did your group use the useful language to reach a compromise?



### Task 4

Your city has just received a large lottery grant to spend on something that will benefit the community. You are attending a community meeting to discuss how the money should be spent. Read your role card and what you want to use the money for. Propose your idea at the meeting but remember that you must reach a compromise.

#### Student A: You are a local artist.

You want to use the lottery grant to hold a summer music festival and invite some famous international artists. You think that this could bring the community together and local businesses could set up stalls at the event to sell their products.

### Student B: You are an environmental activist.

You want to use the lottery grant to install solar panels in all homes and community buildings in the area. This will be rolled out in phases with poorer areas being targeted first. It will be great for the environment and reduce the cost of energy bills for local people.

#### Student C: You are a member of a youth group.

You want to use the lottery grant to invest in a new sports centre for school children. The centre would offer free sports lessons including swimming, football, basketball and gymnastics. It would also boast an ice hockey rink!

#### Student D: You are a local businessperson.

You want to use the lottery grant to invest in several local start-up companies which will bring jobs to the area and upskill local people. The money would also be used to establish a board of advisors to help these companies grow.

### Reflection:

What did you end up using the lottery grant for? Was it easy or difficult to reach a compromise? Did your group use the useful language to reach a compromise?

