



VOCABULARY BANK

Public Places and Services

Public Places and Services | Bank 1: libraries, parks and community facilities | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

1. Quick confidence check

Before you study the topic, mark the column that best describes your confidence with each word or phrase.

| Word or phrase | New to me | I recognise it | I can use it |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| public space | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| community facility | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| library | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| public park | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| sports centre | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| youth club | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| accessible | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| safe environment | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| local residents | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| community event | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| shared space | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| take care of facilities | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

2. Vocabulary bank

Here are some useful words, adjectives, verbs and chunks that can be reused in exam answers. If you are not sure of their meaning, check online or ask your teacher.

| Category | Useful vocabulary |
|----------------|--|
| Places | public space, library, public park, sports centre, youth club, community facility |
| People and use | local residents, shared space, community event, accessible, safe environment, spend time together |
| Care | take care of facilities, follow public rules, respect others, keep an area clean, report damage, improve the neighbourhood |
| Opinion chunks | Public spaces are useful because..., A community facility should be..., Local residents can..., It is important to keep..., Young people benefit from... |

3. Match the meaning

Match each word or phrase with the correct meaning. Then choose four and write your own examples.

| No. | Word or phrase | Meaning |
|-----|--------------------|--|
| 1 | public space | a. easy for people to enter or use |
| 2 | community facility | b. a place used by many different people |
| 3 | accessible | c. a place that people in the community can use |
| 4 | local residents | d. tell someone in authority that something is broken |
| 5 | shared space | e. a building or place that provides services for local people |
| 6 | report damage | f. people who live in a particular area |

4. Build useful chunks

Choose useful chunks from the grid. Then write three natural sentences you could use in a speaking or writing answer.

| Useful chunk | Useful chunk | Useful chunk |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| public space | community facility | local residents |
| library | sports centre | youth club |
| safe environment | keep an area clean | take care of facilities |

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

5. Read in context

Read the text. The bold words are from the vocabulary bank.

Places for the Whole Community

Good towns need useful **public spaces** where people can meet, study, relax or exercise. A library, park or **sports centre** can support people of different ages.

A strong **community facility** should be safe, clean and **accessible**. This means that people can use it without unnecessary difficulty.

Community events can help **local residents** feel connected. They give people a reason to spend time together and make the area feel friendlier.

Because these places are **shared spaces**, everyone has a responsibility to respect others, keep them clean and report damage when needed.

6. Check your understanding

Answer the questions in your own words. Use the vocabulary bank where it fits naturally.

READING CHECK

1. Give two public spaces mentioned in the text.

2. What should a strong community facility be like?

3. How can community events help local residents?

4. Why does everyone have a responsibility in shared spaces?

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

What does 'accessible' mean?

- A. Easy for people to enter or use
- B. Closed to the public
- C. Expensive to repair
- D. Used only by tourists

What is the writer's main point?

- A. Public places are valuable when people use and care for them well.
- B. Community facilities are not useful.
- C. Public spaces should always be closed.
- D. Residents should not report damage.

7. Use the vocabulary

| Task | What to do |
|------------|---|
| Speaking 1 | Describe a public place you use in your local area. |
| Speaking 2 | Discuss this question: What public facilities do teenagers need most? |
| Writing | Write a short paragraph suggesting how to improve a local public space. |
| Review | Return to the confidence table. Choose one item you want to improve and write a clear example sentence. |

8. Topic discussion questions

Use these for pair work, small-group discussion, or speaking-test warm-up practice.

- What public place is most useful in your area?
- Should libraries still receive funding?
- How can parks be made safer?
- Why do communities need shared spaces?
- How can young people take care of public facilities?

**ANSWER KEY**

Public Places and Services

3. Match the meaning

1. c = a place that people in the community can use
2. e = a building or place that provides services for local people
3. a = easy for people to enter or use
4. f = people who live in a particular area
5. b = a place used by many different people
6. d = tell someone in authority that something is broken

6. Check your understanding

1. Any two from: library, park, sports centre.
 2. Safe, clean and accessible.
 3. They help residents feel connected and make the area friendlier.
 4. Many people use them, so everyone should respect and care for them.
- MCQ 1: A. Easy for people to enter or use.
- MCQ 2: A. Public places are valuable when people use and care for them well.