

A report on weekends- Language of generalisation

*Working with a partner, try to make at least five true sentences about what your classmates did **at the weekend**. When you have written something in most of the lines below or your teacher stops you, go around the class asking questions to check whether your sentences are true or not.*

The majority of those questioned _____

Almost all the interviewees _____

A minority of respondents _____

Approximately fifty percent of the people surveyed _____

A single member of the sample group _____

Several members of the group _____

A couple of people _____

Around two thirds of the group _____

None of the people interviewed _____

Most of the people who responded to the interview _____

Only a few fellow members of the class _____

Just under half of the group in question _____

Write the number of people each statement above would refer to in your class next to each line above, e.g. "6 to 10, but probably 8 or 9" next to the first one. Are there any that mean the same? If so, which one is better language for a report?

Are there any other ways of saying the other numbers of people? If so, which expression is more suitable for reports?

What different expressions are used above to talk about your classmates? Which are most suitable for a report?

Arrange the information you obtained into paragraphs with headings and discuss how you would begin and end the report.

Typical mistakes What is the difference between "Almost everyone" and "Almost people"?

Which one means "Nearly human"?