

# Outsourcing vs. In-house Production Debate

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## 1. Role-Play Dialogue (Approximately 10 minutes)

**Scenario:** A management team discusses the advantages and disadvantages of outsourcing versus in-house production in a business meeting.

### Participants:

- **Mr. Collins (CEO)**
- **Ms. Lee (CFO)**
- **Mr. Davis (Operations Manager)**
- **Ms. Patel (HR Director)**

### Dialogue:

**Mr. Collins:** Thank you all for joining today's meeting. We need to decide whether to continue producing in-house or outsource certain tasks. If we outsource certain tasks, then we might reduce costs.

**Ms. Lee:** That's true. Outsourcing could lower operational expenses, especially for non-core activities. However, we must ensure quality control. If we don't manage our external partners well, then we could face serious quality issues.

**Mr. Davis:** I see your point. In-house production ensures better control over processes. If we keep production in-house, then we can maintain higher standards. However, it might also mean higher costs.

**Ms. Patel:** Another concern is employee morale. If we outsource key operations, then we might create uncertainty among staff. This could lead to decreased motivation and productivity.

**Mr. Collins:** That's a valid concern. We should also consider scalability. If we need to expand quickly, then outsourcing might provide flexibility. We wouldn't need to invest heavily in new facilities.

**Ms. Lee:** A balanced approach might work. We could outsource certain non-core activities while keeping critical functions in-house.

**Mr. Davis:** That sounds reasonable. If we conduct a thorough cost-benefit analysis, then we can make an informed decision.

**Ms. Patel:** Agreed. Let's gather more data before making a final choice.

**Mr. Collins:** Good idea. We'll reconvene next week with a detailed proposal.

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## **2. Comprehension Questions and Sample Answers (Approximately 5 minutes)**

### **1. What is the main topic of discussion in the meeting?**

- *The discussion focuses on whether the company should continue in-house production or outsource certain tasks.*

### **2. What are the potential advantages of outsourcing mentioned in the dialogue?**

- *Outsourcing can reduce costs and provide scalability.*

### **3. What concern does Ms. Patel raise about outsourcing?**

- *She is concerned that outsourcing might create uncertainty among employees, leading to decreased motivation.*

### **4. What is the final decision at the end of the meeting?**

- *The team decides to gather more data and conduct a cost-benefit analysis before making a final decision.*
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## **3. Teacher's Lesson Points**

### **Pre-Class Preparation:**

- Review the dialogue, key vocabulary, and grammar points (modal verbs and conditionals). Be ready to explain additional details related to the topic if needed.

### **Introduction (2–3 minutes):**

- Start with a short discussion on outsourcing vs. in-house production.
- Ask the student: *“Have you ever worked for a company that outsourced tasks? What were the pros and cons?”*

### **Reading & Analysis (10 minutes):**

- Have the student read the dialogue aloud, emphasizing pronunciation, intonation, and the natural flow of conversation.
- Pause to explain key grammar points, such as conditionals and modal verbs.

### **Comprehension Check (5 minutes):**

- Ask the provided comprehension questions and encourage discussion.
- Provide immediate feedback and corrections.

### **Role-Play Practice (Remaining Time):**

- Conduct a role-play session where the teacher plays one role (e.g., CEO) and the student plays another (e.g., CFO).
- Encourage the use of key vocabulary and grammar structures.

### **Wrap-Up (2–3 minutes):**

- Summarize key vocabulary and grammar points.
- Assign a homework task: *Prepare a short proposal outlining the benefits of outsourcing or in-house production using modal verbs and conditionals.*