

S M A R T

Smart Design

# Unit 6 Art & Technology



# Target Students

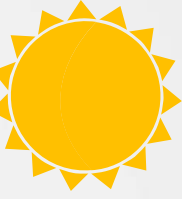
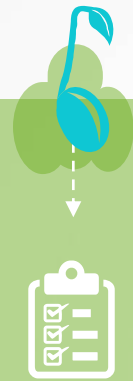
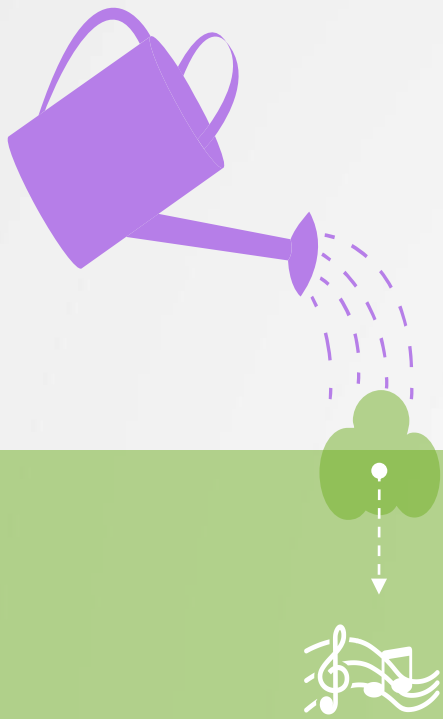
- A class of 30 students
- Non-English Major
- 2nd semester of the 1st year
- Above CET4



# Teaching Material

- Unit 6, Literacy & Technology
- Book 2, iEnglish (Integrated Course)
- **Hedging language**





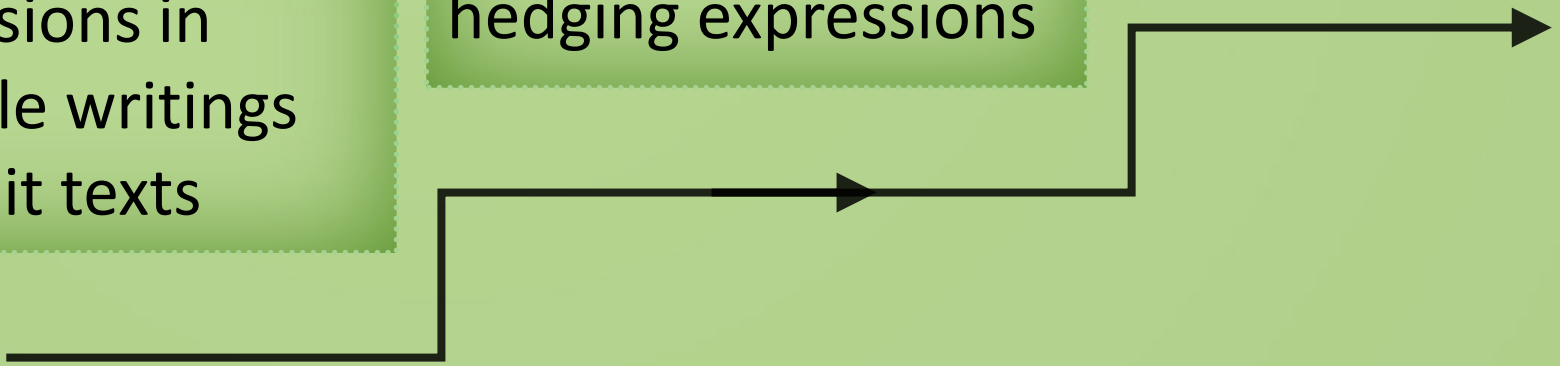
# Teaching Objectives

to **understand** what hedging language is and why it is important

to **identify** hedging expressions in example writings and unit texts

to **summarize** when and how to use hedging expressions

to **apply** hedging language in students' writing





# Teaching Materials



padlet

*A Blank Wall to Post....*



<http://padlet.com/>

# Teaching Materials



padlet

Su Xiaqing · 5d


## Hedging Language

Cautious Language / Honesty Principle

### What is Hedging?

n. a fence or boundary formed by a dense row of low trees.


**Hedging Language:**  
It is often believed that academic writing, particularly scientific writing, is factual, simply to convey facts and information. However it is now recognized that an important feature of academic writing is the concept of **cautious language**, often called "**hedging**" or "**vague language**".



### Why Do We Hedge?

more precise when reporting results, e.g. you can show that something is not 100% proven, but rather that it is indicated and subsequently assumed.

- to enable you to execute a politeness strategy in which you are able to acknowledge that perhaps there may be flaws in your claims
- to conform to a now accepted practice writing style



### How to Hedge?

#### Phrases for Hedging

- Introductory verbs:**  
e.g. seem, tend, look like, appear to be, think, believe, doubt, be sure, indicate, suggest
- Certain lexical verbs**  
e.g. believe, assume, suggest
- Certain modal verbs:**  
e.g. will, must, would, may, might, could
- Adverbs of frequency**  
e.g. often, sometimes, usually
- Modal adverbs**  
e.g. certainly, definitely, clearly, probably, possibly, perhaps, conceivably,
- Modal adjectives**  
e.g. certain, definite, clear, probable, possible
- Modal nouns**

### Now You Do...

#### Hedging Exercises:

	Informal Language	Academic Hedging Language
For introducing stronger opinions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I think...</li><li>In my opinion....</li><li>I believe...</li><li>Everyone agrees that...</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>It seems that...</li><li>It appears that...</li><li>Many people believe that...</li><li>Many experts/academics/scientists argue that...</li></ul>
For introducing weaker opinions		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>It may be that...</li><li>It is possible that...</li><li>It could be argued that...</li><li>Some people believe that...</li><li>Some experts/academics/scientists argue that...</li></ul>
For introducing the arguments / opinions of other people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Williams (2014) thinks/says that....</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Williams (2014) suggests that....</li><li>contends that....</li><li>argues that....</li><li>claims that....</li></ul>

A. Use 1 colour to highlight any academic hedging language you can find in the reading texts in Explore 1 & 2.

B. Make the following sentences academic using the academic hedging language above:

1. I think that technology has caused many problems for the development of young people.

Hedging Exercises  
Word document  
padlet drive

0

Add comment



# Teaching Assessment



## Instant Assessment

Q & A Sessions

Fill-in-the-blank

Group Discussion

On-line Assessment



## Delayed Assessment

On-line Assessment

# Teaching Assessment



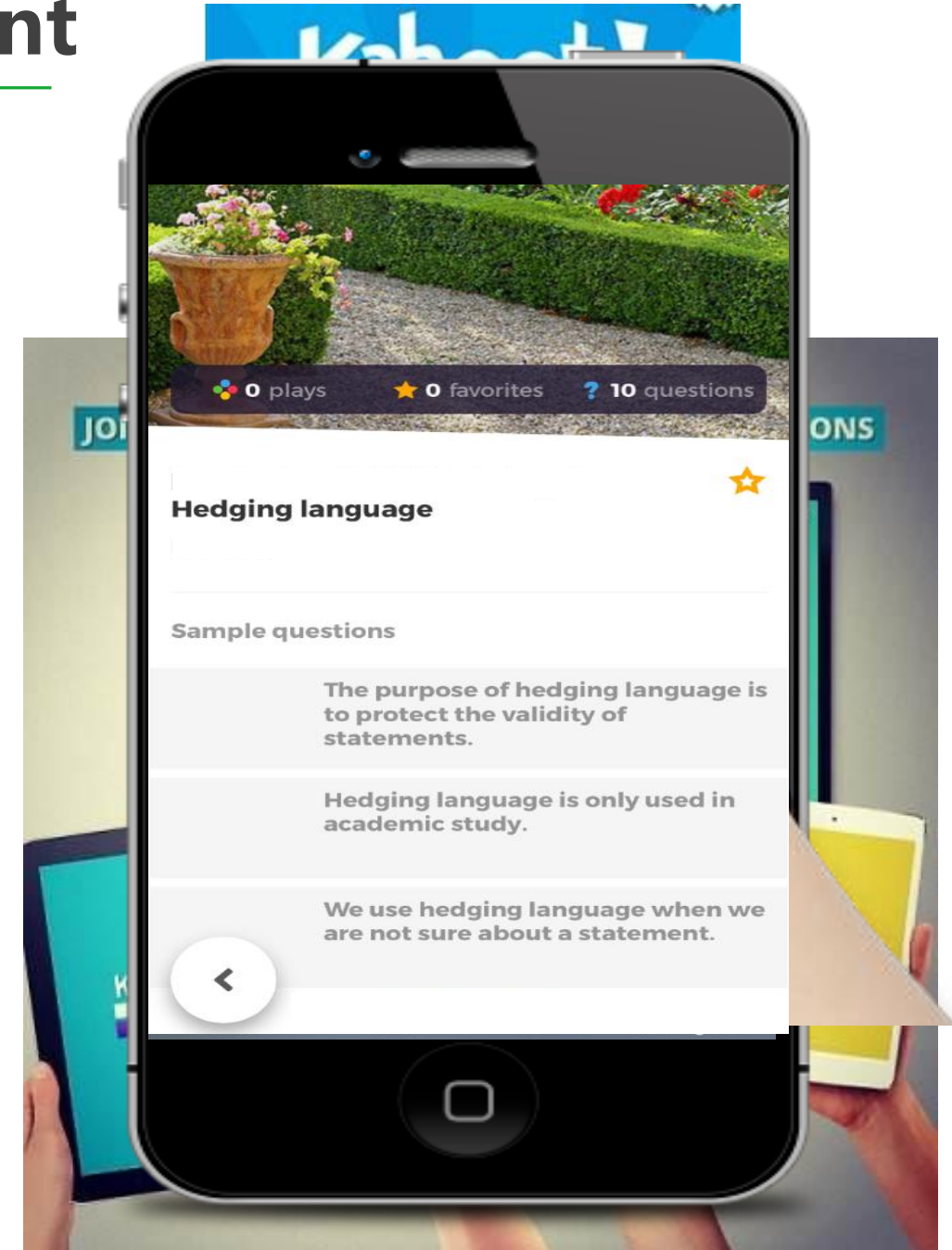
## Instant Assessment

Q & A Sessions

Fill-in-the-blank

Group Discussion

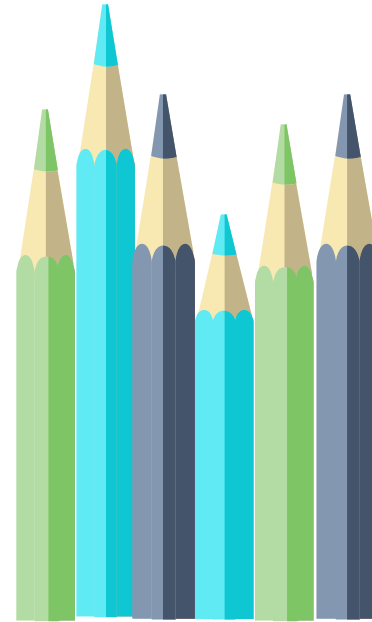
On-line Assessment



# Teaching Assessment



Delayed Assessment



## Hedging Exercises

	Informal Language	Academic Hedging Language
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A. Use 1 colour to highlight any academic hedging language you can find in the reading texts in iExplore 1 & 2.

B. Make the following sentences academic using the academic hedging language above:

1. I think that technology has caused many problems for the development of young people.

.....

2. Everyone agrees that global warming may have negative effects on the environment in the future.

.....

3. Mass tourism causes many problems for developing countries.

.....

4. For example, Williams (2014) thinks that technology has contributed positively to the development of education.

.....

On-line Assessment

Short-answer Quiz

Peer Review

Instructor's Feedback



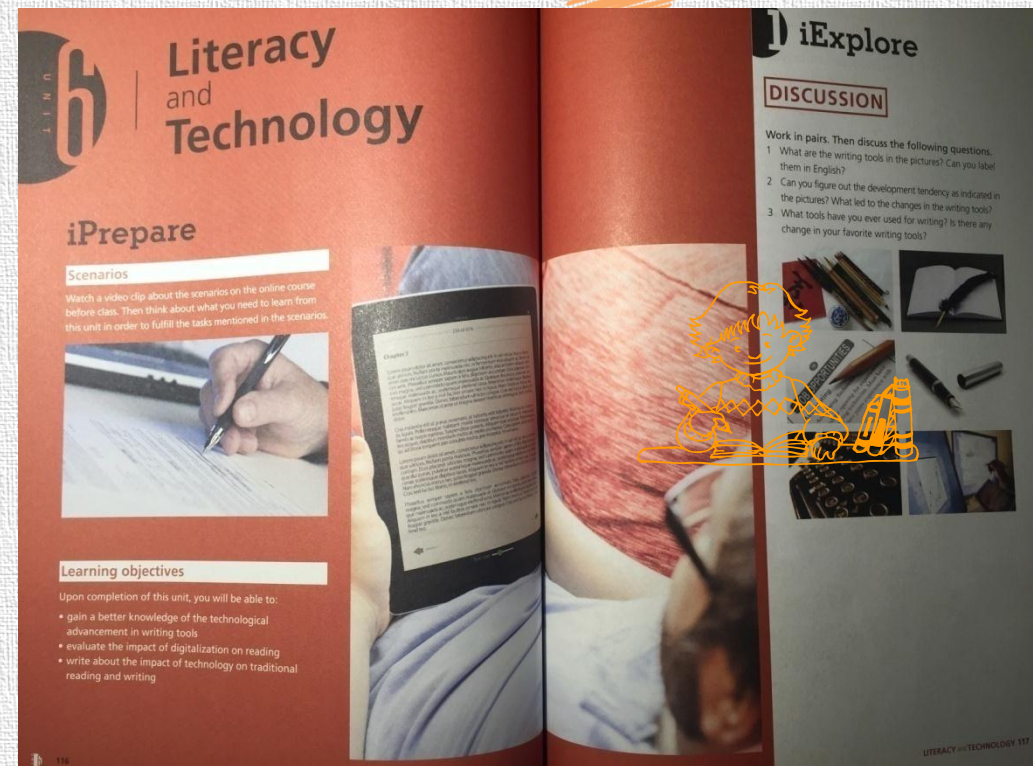
# Hedging Language

## Unit 6

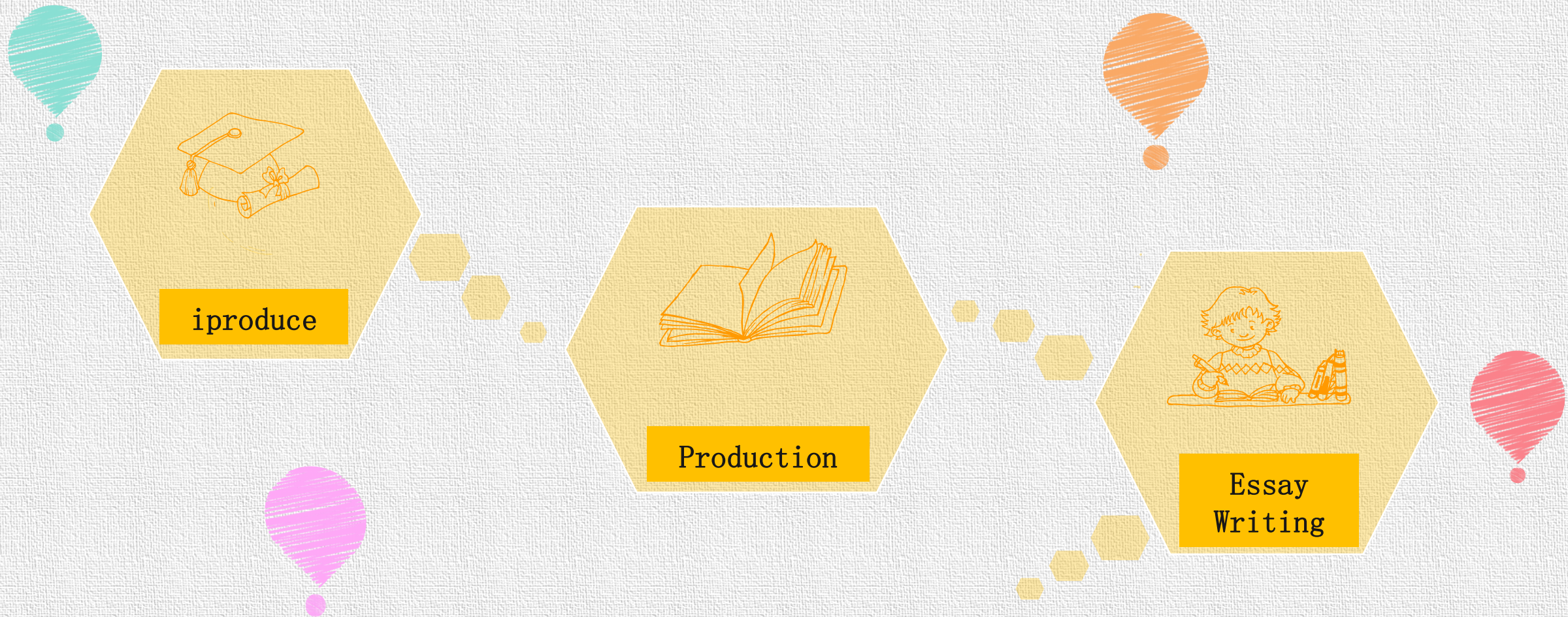
### Literacy & Technology











## The Impact of Technology on Traditional Reading and Writing

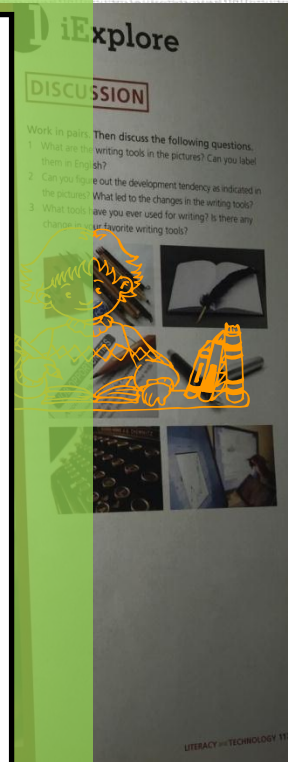
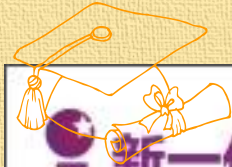


iProduce

## Unit Project

Writing an essay :  
Please write a 250-word essay on  
the topic “**The Impact of  
Technology on Traditional Reading  
and Writing**” to express your view  
on the changes brought about by  
computers and digitalization.

The Impact of Technology on  
Traditional Reading & Writing







Judy

more **objective** when  
looking at things

# Hedging



Nick

very **subjective** and  
often overgeneralizes





Judy



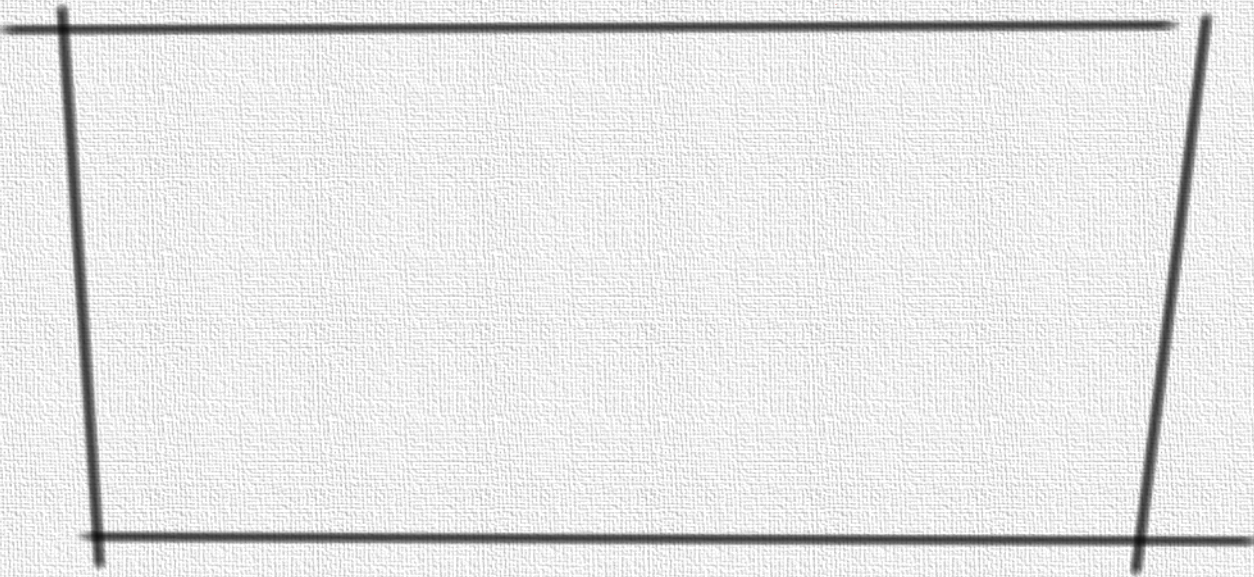
more **objective** when looking at things

1. Ebooks are cheaper than physical books.
2. Ebooks are **often** cheaper than physical books.
3. People get distracted by e-books.
4. **Many** people **could** get distracted by ebooks.

Nick



very **subjective** and often overgeneralizes





Judy



more **objective** when  
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2. Ebooks are **often** cheaper than physical books.
4. **Many** people **could** get distracted by ebooks.

Nick



very **subjective** and  
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1. Ebooks are cheaper than physical books.
3. People get distracted by e-books.



# Hedging



Hedging is a linguistic strategy which refers to using **vague or tentative words** to lessen the impact of what you are saying, or make it **less direct**.

It is used in both formal writing and speech when we want to **avoid sounding too direct or categorical**.

kindle

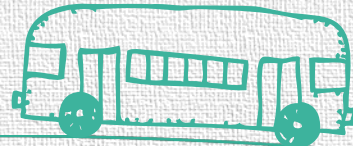




1 to reduce the risk of opposition

2 to soften your statements

3 to be confidently uncertain





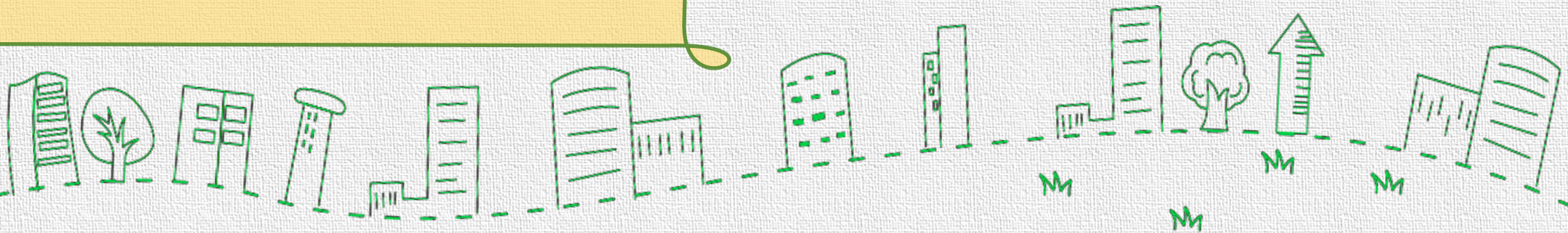
1 introductory phrases



2 New releases are cheaper on an e-reader than in traditional book form.

3 New releases tend to be cheaper on an e-reader than in traditional book form.

How <sup>seem</sup> <sup>tend to</sup> look like <sup>to</sup> appear to be is likely to be hedge?  
...





1 introductory phrases

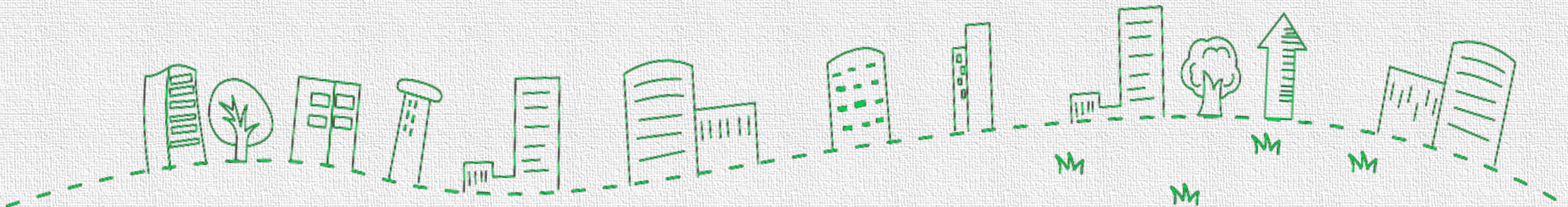
2 modal verbs, adjectives, adverbs

3



will, would, could, can,  
may, might

Probably, possibly,  
perhaps, presumably,  
virtually, apparently ...





1 introductory phrases

2 modal verbs, adjectives, adverbs

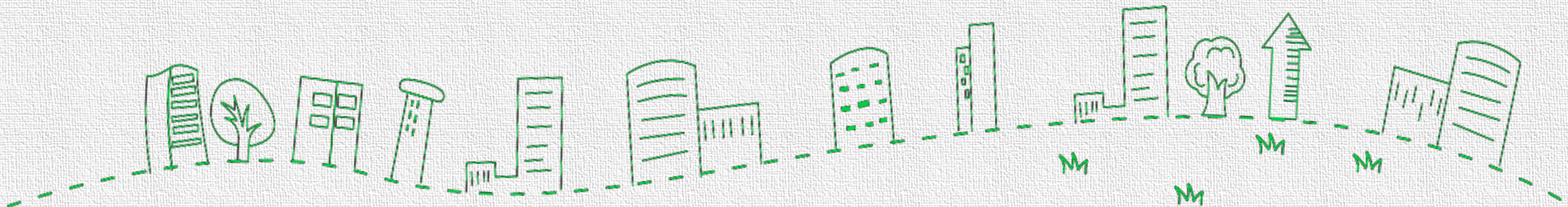
stronger certainty

3

E-readers distance little kids from the real world.

will, would, could, can, may, might

Probably, possibly, perhaps, presumably, virtually, apparently ...





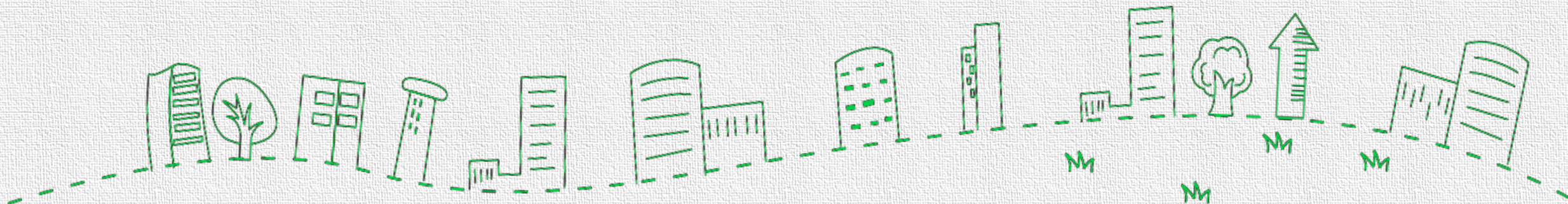
1 introductory phrases

2 modal verbs, adjectives, adverbs

3 “that” clauses



It could be the case **that**...  
It might be suggested **that**...  
It could be argued **that**...  
...







1 introductory phrases

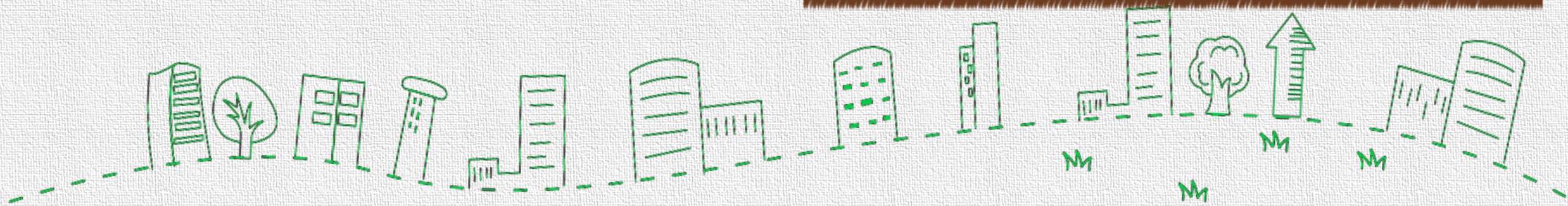
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电子阅读器会使孩子们远离真实的世界。

It could be argued **that** e-readers **could** distance little kids from the real world.



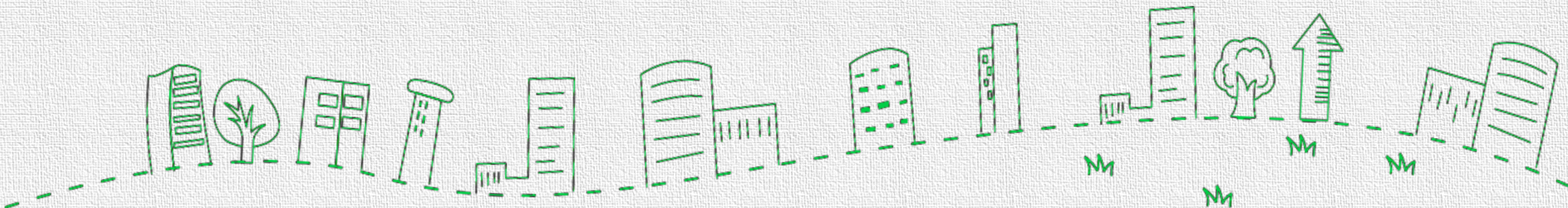


1 introductory phrases

2 modal verbs, adjectives, adverbs

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# 3 Tips on Hedging





### Hedging Exercises

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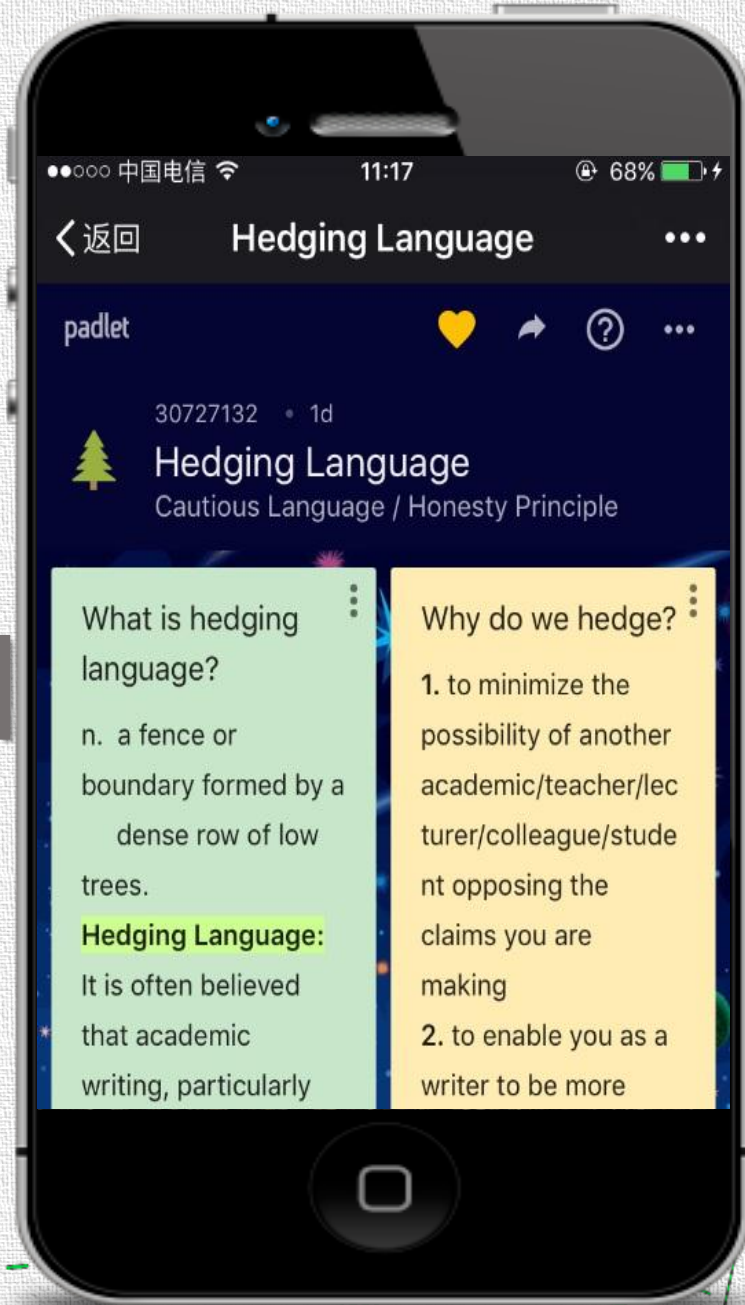
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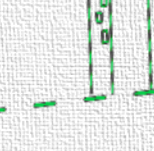
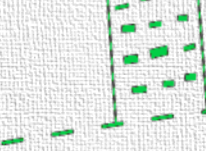


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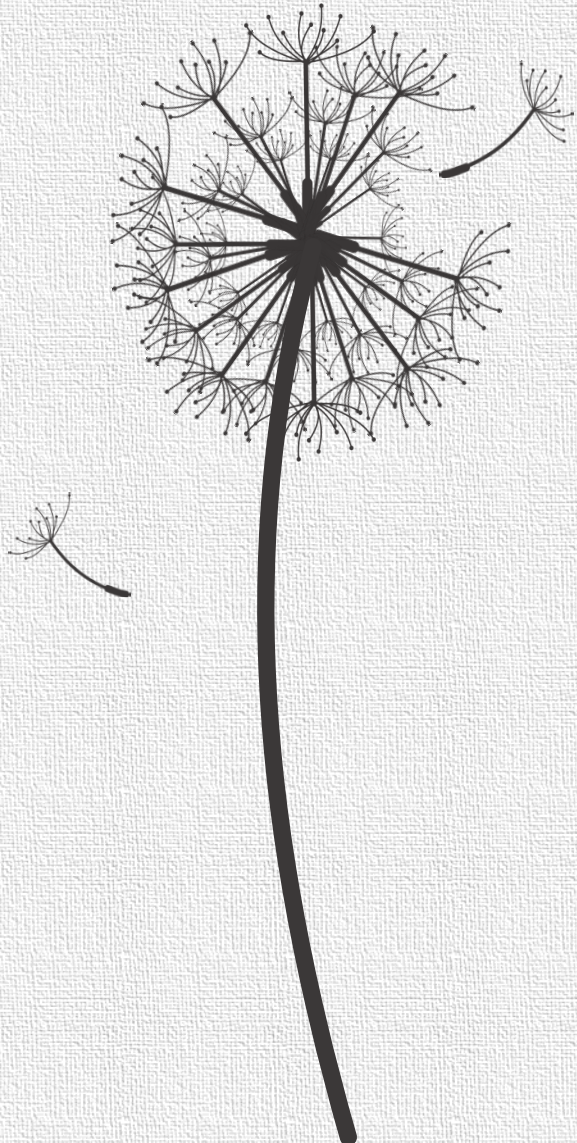


## Assignment

- Finish the Hedging Exercises in PADLET.
- Revise the first draft of your essay.







**Thank You!**