7A COMMUNICATIVE Let's change the rules

Read the following proposals and suggestions related to education.
For each one decide whether you agree, disagree, or half-agree and why.

- 1 Teachers should not be allowed to use red pens to correct exercises because this is psychologically harmful to students.
- 2 Schoolchildren should not be given grades on tests, only general comments, so that they can't compare themselves with other children.
- 3 Secondary school teachers should never be made to teach more than four hours a day.
- 4 Children don't need to be "streamed" at school. Stronger pupils can learn as much in a class with weaker pupils as they would with those of their own level.
- 5 Handwriting should no longer be taught at school because it is irrelevant for children in the 21st century.
- 6 Competitive sports should be banned in schools, so that children's self-esteem is not affected by losing.
- 7 Science teachers should be paid more than arts teachers because it is much harder to recruit them.
- 8 Online learning and coursework can never totally replace traditional learning methods.
- 9 The people who decide on new education laws should be teachers, not politicians.
- **10** Parents ought to reward their children for passing exams, for example with a cash payment.
- 11 Children shouldn't have to memorize facts like multiplication tables and important historical dates because the information is now instantly available on the internet.
- 12 A university course is supposed to be enjoyable, not just a route to a better job.

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Compare your answers with your partner. Discuss the pros and cons of each statement.