

**REAL-TIME CONFERENCING TOOLS
IN TEACHING SPEAKING TO ADULT LEARNERS**

by Kaja Fronczyk

Maria Curie-Sklodowska University, Lublin, Poland

kajak83 @ o2.pl

Lesson plan 1

Time: 45 minutes

Level: Upper intermediate and above

Subject: relationships and happiness

Aims: talking about relationships as a starting point towards the subject of happiness

Objectives: students can express their opinion about relationships and happiness, use the vocabulary specific for the language area.

Tools: computers, headsets, microphones, a voice recorder, handouts

Programs: Skype, Instant Messaging program

Possible problems: equipment failure, network failure, lack of computer skills, bad timing

Procedure	Time (min)	Form of work/tools	Purpose
Lesson lead-in - logging into the system, - looking at the software, - vocabulary needed	5	Hand-outs, graphic files, audio-files Computers, headphones, microphones	Making students familiar with the software and the vocabulary connected with it
Pre-listening activity How do people meet? How can you meet someone to be with? What makes a good couple?	5	IM whole class chat session discussion – brainstorming ideas Many-to many mode	Generating ideas Sharing views Generating vocabulary
Explaining the vocabulary from the clip	5	Handout Whole class	Making students familiar with the words

			that may cause problems in the clip
Listening activity			
Clip – listen and watch	5	Youtube clip	Eliciting the language from students
What stages of life of a person can you think of?	5		
Clip – listen, watch and answer the questions		Handout + clip	Revising vocabulary and assimilating new words
What are the people in the clip like?			Gathering and preparing the material under discussion
-the woman			
-the man			
-their friends			
-their family			
Try to characterize them briefly.			
Give as many adjectives as possible.			
Clip – checking the answers	5	IM chat (one-to-one)	
Post listening activity	10	Panel discussion Skype session	Eliciting the language from students Speaking practice, negotiations
In your opinion, will the guy agree to have a life together with the girl?			
If someone presented such a practical point of view on life to you, would you agree to his/her proposal?			
What is your opinion about the girl?			
Is it worthwhile being such straightforward in your relations with people you barely know?			
How can you characterize the modern relations between men and women?			
Homework	5		

Prepare a short story that a guy could tell the girl to ask her to be with her – analogical to the one in the clip			
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Lesson one – teaching materials

I. Getting started

Computer vocabulary

To log on = to sign in, to be online, to operate a program

To start a chat = to start to talk with somebody via e.g. an IM program

To double click

To right/left-click

To send a file

To change online status

other

II. “I guess you’ll do...”

1) Discussion

Discuss the following questions

-What are the modern ways of meeting people?

-What makes a good couple?

-What is the stereotype of a woman in today’s world?

2) Watch, listen and present.

Look at the vocabulary and try to guess the meaning of the given words:

- to be on a schedule =
- courtship =
- roll around =
- go to the movies =
- get in a fight =
- make up =
- cubicles =
- cherished memory =
- memorial day barbecue =
- “get it over with” =
- the highlight of sb’s life =
- philosophical pursuit =
- to be the centre of attention =
- to give birth =
- adequate but not spectacular =
- to lack sth (the size and skill) =
- semi-finished basement =
- to decide against (≠.....) sth =
- to retire =
- discuss sth at length =
- heart complications =
- slip away into dementia =
- die of natural causes =
- “it will be done” =

a) Watch the clip

What stages of life of a person can you think of?

b) Watch the clip once again and answer the questions

What are the people in the clip like? Try to characterize them briefly. Give as many adjectives as possible.

- the woman
- the man
- their friends
- their family

c) Try to discuss the following questions

Will the guy agree to have a life together with the girl?

If someone presented you such a practical point of view on life, would you agree to his/her proposal?

What is your opinion about the girl?

Is it worthwhile being such straightforward in your relations with people you barely know?

How can you characterize the modern relations between men and women?

Lesson plan 2

Time: 45 minutes

Level: Upper intermediate and above

Subject: Where was the fish?

Aims: talking about the past

Objectives: students can talk about their past events, they know the forms of the verbs

Tools: computers, headsets, microphones, a voice recorder, handouts, a set of pictures,

Programs: Skype, Instant Messaging program

Possible problems: equipment failure, network failure, lack of computer skills, bad timing

Procedure	Time (min)	Form of work/tools	Purpose
Logging to the system, copying files for the lesson	5	Handouts, files, computer equipment	Getting ready for the lesson
Lead-in activity Presenting homework from the previous lesson	5	Skype conference One-to-one mode Pair work	Revising vocabulary from the previous lesson Warm-up speaking activity
A short text in Past Simple tense	5	Reading, written text – hand-out	Past simple text as a model for further discussion
Pre-activity Students discuss together the	5	Whole class-teacher mode	Revising Past Simple

use of Past Simple tense, how to form questions, answers, how to form regular verbs, and where to find irregular verbs		Hand-outs	
Activity Students receive hand-outs with the story about a man, both hand-outs contain blank spaces and students' role is to ask questions and receive answers to fill in the blanks	10	Pair work One-to-one mode Computer equipment, Skype Handouts	Practicing Past Simple questions, short answers
Post- activity Students receive hand-outs with some grammar activities, they do the exercises and check the answers Students talk to each other about three possible past events from their life Their interlocutors' task is to guess which of them is true and which are false Students can ask each other additional questions	5 5	Whole class IM chat session Skype conference Many-to-many mode	Practicing speaking Explaining troublesome grammar issues
Homework – prepare a short speech about your best childhood experience	5		

Lesson two – teaching materials

1. Getting started
2. Reading

You will read a short text. Determine which tense is used, when and how do we use it and how do we form questions and negatives.

October arrived, spreading a damp chill over the grounds and into the castle. Madam Pomfrey, the nurse, was kept busy by a sudden spate of colds among the staff and students. Her Pepperup potion worked instantly, though it left the drinker smoking at the ears for several hours afterward. Ginny Weasley, who had been looking pale, was bullied into taking some by Percy. The steam pouring from under her vivid hair gave the impression that her whole head was on fire.

J.K. Rowling, "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets"

2. Looking for some information

Read the text and ask your partner for missing information. The underlined parts are the parts missing in your partner's text, so don't ask about them:

John Duckson always started his day from Yesterday was the same. He woke up at then he brushed his teeth and prepared breakfast: Before going to work, John fed the fish, but he forgot to feed

The day at work was quite tiring, so John dreamed about long holidays abroad and made plans about

When John came home, he felt something was different. The atmosphere changed and he felt at ease. He checked the, he looked into the to see if everything is where he had put it and suddenly he realized that the fish bowl he kept his best friend Gilly-the-fish was empty.

3. Grammar practice

Transform the above text into Present Simple

4. Grammar practice - speaking

Your friend just came back from holidays. You ask him about it. Write questions:

- a) Where/go?
- b) go alone?
- c) food/good?
- d) how long/stay there?
- e) where/live?
- f) stay/ hotel?
- g) how travel?
- i) the weather fine?
- j) what/do/evenings?
- k) meet/anyone interesting

4. Speaking

Talk together about your last/best holidays. Use the questions above. Then refer to your colleagues about your partner's holidays.

Lesson plan 3

Time: 45 minutes

Level: Upper intermediate

Subject: Money

Aims: talking about the money

Objectives: Students use the vocabulary connected with the language area, express their ideas on money issues and on homelessness, they are able to make a survey and present the survey results in a proper manner

Tools: computers, headsets, microphones, a voice recorder, handouts, a set of pictures,

Programs: Skype, Instant Messaging program

Possible problems: equipment failure, network failure, lack of computer skills, bad timing

Procedure	Time (min)	Form of work/tools	Purpose
Lead-in Checking homework from the previous lesson	5	Pair work	Checking homework, practicing speaking as a warm up activity
Pre-reading activity Discussing questions Does money give happiness? Is money important in life today?	5	Skype – discussion	Expressing opinion,
Survey -students make survey and fill in a hand-out so that they can find out about the inclinations in the class	10	Survey – each student receives a question to ask and to get answer to	Asking questions and eliciting language
Paying attention to the vocabulary from the text			Introduction to the text
Reading activity	5	Text about a	Stimulating students to

Students enter http://blogs.wsj.com/wealth/2008/05/19/the-homeless-billionaire/ and read about a rich man who does not have a house. They try to answer some questions Checking answers	5	millionaire A set of questions Skype – one to one mode, Pair work, discussing the answers	further discussion
Post reading activity Creating the families of words on the basis on the vocabulary from the text	10	Hand-out Checking answers in a chat session	
Homework Filling the text with Past Simple forms	5		

Lesson three – teaching materials

1. Getting started

Does money give happiness?
Is money important in life today?

2. Survey

Make a survey. Ask your friends the two questions, find out their answers, add your own and give the percentage.

Question 1-Agnieszka

If you won a national lottery, would you donate all the money to charity?
If you won a national lottery, would you keep this money in your house?

Question 2-Magda

If you were a rich man, would you spend any of your money on gambling?
If you were a rich man, would you invest your money in real estate?

Question 3-Mateusz

If you were a millionaire, would you have more than one house?
If you were a millionaire, would you sign a prenuptial agreement?

Question 4-Rafal

Would you choose not to work if you won 2 million dollars?
Would you hire a driver to drive your car if you were very rich?

3. Reading

Open the file with the text or enter the site <http://blogs.wsj.com/wealth/2008/05/19/the-homeless-billionaire/>
Read the text and answer the following questions:

1. What are the two things that make Nicolas unusual?
2. What did Nicolas do with his possessions?
3. What does it mean that “for him, wealth is about lasting impact, not stuff”?
4. Why does he perceive wealth as temporary?

5. Why doesn't he take pleasure from acquiring things?
6. Does his attitude towards money become popular?

4. Discuss

What do you think about Nicolas's attitude towards money?

Does a social status depend on money?

Does it influence the person's personality?

Why do people need to accumulate things?

5. Read the opinions about Nicolas and say whether you agree:

Yes, easy for him to say that he doesn't care about possessions while he's hotel hopping. I wouldn't mind not owning a home either if I could stay wherever I wanted

I have to agree with him....sorta'. Owning real estate makes you an ATM for everybody:

GOVERNMENT...CONTRACTORS...UTILITY COMPANIES...INSURANCE COMPANIES ...ANGRY WIVES or SIGNIFICANT OTHERS. Now if you need land to raise a family or grow food that's another story...but if you're wealthy & single-why all the clutter?

He is 'houseless', not homeless in the normal meaning of the term. And this is hardly new - cycles of the rich seeking simplicity by surrendering possessions goes back at least several millennia. Still, while hardly reducing possessions to a monk's desk and wandering about, he really is doing something and its worthy of note.

I like his philosophy. It's pretty deep. No matter if this trend is moving up the wealth ladder or not, not many will subscribe to this way of living. This dude is unique.

6. Give the noun, verb, adjective related to the word:

Verb	Noun		Adjective	Noun
Invest			Homeless	
Acquire				Fortune
Possess				Wealth
Mean			Dependent	