



Unit 11B

Explain yourself

Plan Cards



I was going to write a letter to the Pope	She was going to shoot him
You were going to put the dog in the bath	You were going to kiss Dracula
He was going to steal a car	We were going to turn the Prince into a frog
We were going to pay for the meal	They were going to have a party
I was going to get married	You were going to fly to the North Pole
They were going to jump off the bridge	He was going to sail around the world



Reason Cards



a stranger changed my mind	my partner refused
the doorbell rang	the telephone rang
I didn't feel brave enough	they had a huge argument
he bit you	it was too difficult
a policeman walked by	you decided that it was too cold
they didn't have enough money	we had a cup of tea instead
we were too frightened	she married another man instead
there wasn't enough time	there was an earthquake



Unit 11B

Teacher's Notes



Explain yourself

Interaction

Group work

Aim

To practice the structure *was going to*.
To practice giving reasons.

Time

25 minutes

Skills

Speaking

Grammar and functions

The structure *was going to*

Vocabulary

Plans

Excuses

Preparation

Photocopy and cut up a complete set of cards for each group of four students.

Procedure

- 1 Tell students about something you had planned to do, e.g. *I was going to cook for ten people*. Elicit some excuses or explanations from students, e.g. *I was going to cook for ten people but I didn't have enough food*.
- 2 Highlight the structure *was going to ... but* or *when*. Check that students understand that *but* is used to show a contrast whereas *when* shows a point in time.
- 3 Divide the class into groups of three.
- 4 Give each group a set of plan cards and have each student take four cards. Give each group a set of reason cards and have students put them face down on the table.
- 5 Explain the game.
 - Students take turns trying to make a sentence using one of their plan cards and a card from the reason pile.
 - If the cards match, the student places them on the table.
 - If the cards do not match, the student must take another reason card and then wait for his / her next turn.
 - The first student to use all his / her cards is the winner.
- 6 Tell students to check that sentences are logical and grammatically correct too.
- 7 Set a time limit of 15 minutes and start the game.
- 8 Walk around the classroom and give help if it is needed.
- 9 When the time is up, ask students to read some of the sentences they have made. The rest of the class checks that they are logical.

Additional ideas

Have students work in pairs and write three plan cards with three reason cards. Ask pairs to exchange plan cards with another pair and write reason cards to match the plans. Have pairs compare their reasons with the pair that wrote the plan cards.