

# What motivates you?

A speaking lesson by Lindsay Clandfield

**Level:** Intermediate

**Aim:** Students discuss different kinds of motivation and what motivates them as learners.

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Preparation:** Copy and cut up the worksheet for every three students in the class.

## Stage 1

Play hangman with the word MOTIVATION. Once students have guessed the word, ask them to brainstorm five words that come to mind when they hear the word *motivation*. Do some feedback on this and write them on the board.

## Stage 2

Divide the class into groups of three and ask them to assign themselves A, B or C. Give each student in the group a different part of the handout and ask them to quickly read the information and think about the questions.

## Stage 3

Ask students to discuss the information on their card. Allow some time for this, and circulate and monitor, taking notes of any language errors you hear.

## Stage 4

Conduct feedback on the students' initial discussion. When you finish, go through some of the errors you heard with the students. You could write them on the board and ask the students to correct themselves.

## Stage 5

Distribute worksheet 2 to each group and assign a secretary. The secretary must read out the questions and take notes on the group's answers. At the end, ask each group's secretary to report back.

# What **motivates you?** Worksheet 1

## STUDENT A

Read the text about a kind of motivation and learners.

### **Intrinsic motivation**

Intrinsic motivation is motivation that comes from inside the learner himself or herself. He or she may be motivated to learn something for the pure enjoyment of learning, for example people who are motivated to learn a language because they love the language and the experience of learning it.

Now talk with other people in your group:

- 1) explain the kind of motivation you read about in your own words
- 2) think of another example of people with this kind of motivation
- 3) if you can, think of a time when YOU had this kind of motivation

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## STUDENT B

Read the text about a kind of motivation and learners.

### **Extrinsic motivation**

Extrinsic motivation comes from an outside source to motivate the learner. This could be some kind of reward or a punishment. For example, people might be motivated to learn a language because they want good results in an exam, or because they will lose their job if they don't.

Now talk with other people in your group:

- 1) explain the kind of motivation you read about in your own words
- 2) think of another example of people with this kind of motivation
- 3) if you can, think of a time when YOU had this kind of motivation

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## STUDENT C

Read the text about a kind of motivation and learners.

### **Integrative motivation**

Integrative motivation is the motivation to integrate or identify with a target community. If people are learning a language and has integrative motivation it is because they want to be a part of that community. If a person is learning English to go and live in an English-speaking country then he or she may have integrative motivation.

Now talk with other people in your group:

- 1) explain the kind of motivation you read about in your own words
- 2) think of another example of people with this kind of motivation
- 3) if you can, think of a time when YOU had this kind of motivation

## What **motivates** you? Worksheet 2

In groups, answer the questions below. Prepare to report back to the whole class.

- *Can you think of a time when you were very motivated to learn something (not language)? When was it? What kind of motivation did you have?*
- *Do you think one kind of motivation is better than another? Which one?*
- *Think of other language classes you have had. What activities did you do that were motivating? Make a list.*
- *What kind of classroom activities do you find DEmotivating (i.e. that do not motivate you). Make a list.*

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