

Engaging Teens? It's Not All About Technology...

Level: Intermediate

Age: Teenagers

Time needed: 60 minutes

Lesson aim:

- To think of the ideal way of learning
- To practise presentation skills

Skills: Speaking, writing, connecting, collaborating, communicating, making choices, working independently, using technology and reflecting.

Materials needed:

For all learners: Worksheet, Image Way of Learning One, Image Way of Learning Two, Image Way of Learning Three

For learners who choose Option

Two for their proposal: the document OptionTwoQuestionsforProposal

For learners who choose Option Three for their proposal: the PowerPoint OptionThreeProposalTemplate

Communication

3. Ask learners to read the statements in the table. Ask different learners in turn to read out the statements. You should encourage learners to add their own ideas to the table. Then, ask the learners to work individually and mark how strongly they agree with the statements. These statements could also be converted into an online form using tools such as *Google Forms* or *Survey Monkey*.
4. Put the learners in pairs and ask them to compare their answers. This is a "Where do You Stand?" activity and promotes communication as learners compare their ideas and convince each other of their points of view. Monitor and support the learners. You could ask pairs to share their ideas with the whole class as this could help the groups come up with ideas for their presentations.

If you want to increase the amount of speaking, learners could record a short video on their phone giving their position on each statement and their reasons. Then, they can respond with a video message to someone who has a different idea using a video sharing platform such as *Flipgrid*. However, it is important that the learners, the parents, and the school agree that these videos are being recorded and that the recordings follow any policies the school may have.

Connection

1. Before the lesson, send the learners the worksheet and the three images. Start the lesson by asking the learners to select the image that is most similar to the current way they are learning. Learners should notice the difference between the three images. Image 1 is a student-centred collaborative lesson. Image 2 shows online learning either individually or as part of a class. Image 3 is a traditional, teacher-centred lesson.
2. Put the learners in groups. Ask them to discuss what they all like about each of the three different ways of studying and what they all dislike. This is a "Find Something in Common" activity. As learners discover which opinions they have in common, they connect both with the topic and with each other. Learners can either share directly with each other or they could post their ideas on a platform such as *Edmodo* and then respond to the posts.

Choice

5. Put the learners in groups. Tell them that they are going to present a proposal for an alternative school. First, they will need to come up with a series of innovative ideas about schools. Then, they will use those ideas to present their proposals.

The learners need to choose one of the three possible processes for planning their presentations: talking to family and friends, web research, or brainstorming. You can go through the three possible planning processes and make sure that the learners understand what each process involves. This is a "Choice Menu" activity and helps learners take responsibility for their learning by choosing how to complete a task (the process).

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Challenge

6. Explain to the learners that now they are going to create their proposals and they have three options of support to choose from. This is a "1, 2, or 3" activity and this way, the learners can make the task of creating a proposal as challenging as they want it to be. Option One is completely open and learners can structure and present the proposal however they want. Option Two is a document that you give them. The document provides guidance on the structure of the proposal through a set of questions. They can present their proposal however they want. Option Three provides guidance on both the structure of the proposal and the format of the presentation by providing a template.

For learners who chose Option Two for their proposal, send them the document `OptionTwoQuestionsforProposal`. For learners who chose Option Three for their proposal, send them the PowerPoint `OptionThreeProposalTemplate`. Give the learners time to prepare the proposals. Monitor the groups and support. Preparing and presenting the proposals will be the main focus of the lesson and needs to take the largest amount of time.

7. Have the learners present their proposals for an alternative school to the complete class. As each group presents, encourage the other learners to think of questions to ask. Thinking of questions will help the learners to engage with the presentations and not simply sit waiting for their turn. As they are presenting, monitor and make note of areas to support with.