

## Pre-Intermediate – Ask for Help

**Aim:** To encourage students to ask for help when they need it.

**Lead-in:** Put students into pairs. Ask them to think of six possible problems students can have in the classroom (e.g., *can't hear the teacher, doesn't understand instructions, hasn't got the correct materials, etc.*). Write the following on the board:

- *Can students solve these problems without help?*
- *Do students need to ask for help to solve these situations?*

Ask pairs to ask the questions on the board for each problem they thought of.

For each problem students need help with, ask students to think of people the student can ask for help. Have them think about what the best way to do so is and take note of what they'd say to approach someone on this matter.

**Choose A Scenario:** Ask students to work in pairs and choose one of the three scenarios (A–C). Ask them to read through it and check understanding. Have them talk about what they should do and who they can ask for help. Then, they should write a short dialogue roleplaying the situation. Model an example dialogue (with a strong student) and write it on the board for students to use as reference.

Monitor and help with language where necessary. Encourage students to look at the Reflection Point while doing the task. Ask some pairs of students to act out their dialogues for the class.

**Reflection Point:** Explain to students that they should always ask if they don't know how to do something or don't understand something in class. It's important to ask for help from the teacher or their classmates. If they have a problem at home, they can ask family members, such as parents, grandparents, or siblings.

**Class discussion:** Ask each pair to work with another who chose the same scenario and compare their problems and the action points they wrote. Encourage them to identify differences and similarities in their action points for their scenarios. Write the questions below on the board. Allow groups time to discuss their answers before holding a whole-class discussion.

*Think of a problem you have in class or at home:*

- *What is it?*
- *Who can you ask for help?*

**Work alone:** Ask students to work alone, choose a second scenario (A–C) and follow the same steps to identify the problem and think of who to ask for help and how to say it.

Ask them to write another dialogue like the one they did for the first scenario they chose. Once they have finished, invite volunteers to present their scenario to the class and act out the dialogue with another student.

**Extension:** Encourage students to think of up to five things they need help with and ask other students in the class to help them. Students write down the name of the person they can ask for help and a date when they will do it. Ask them to tell the class when the problem is solved.