

Lesson plan

Four seasons

Topic

Times of the year – changes in the weather and personal preferences

Aims

- To brainstorm and review vocabulary related to weather and the seasons
- To speculate about partner's preferences
- To discuss and agree on a plan for a summer party

Age group

11-18

Level

B1

Time

60 minutes

Materials

1. Four Seasons Student worksheet

Introduction

This lesson is based around the topic of the four seasons. Certain activities may or may not be appropriate depending on where you are working and how extreme the seasonal variations in the weather and way of life are. If you are in a place that doesn't have big seasonal changes students may still be interested in the topic but Task 2 should be omitted or adapted.

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Procedure

1. Four Seasons	<p>Task 1 – put the four columns on the board. Ask students to think of as many words as they can connected to each season. You could do this task as a team activity and award points to teams who have original words that no other team got.</p> <p>If you can, bring in a picture of a photo to represent each season. You can elicit the seasons from the pictures then stick them on the board on the columns to inspire the students.</p>
2 . What's your favourite season?	<p>Put students into groups of six. If possible let them group themselves with friends. Ask them to write the names of their group members in the first column of the table. Then ask them how well they think they know their class mates. Do they know what their favourite food / type of music / sports are? Do they know what their favourite season is? Ask them to guess their group members favourite season and give a reason why. Then they ask them and find out if they were right or not.</p> <p>To demonstrate the activity have a few guesses yourself. Eg. “I think Pablo’s favourite season is winter because he loves skiing. Am I right? Pablo – what’s your favourite season? ...</p> <p>When students have finished, ask them to compare their answers with other groups.</p>
3. Seasonal Word Tennis game	<p>Before moving on to Task 3, you can play this game to review vocabulary. This word game is played in pairs facing each other. It’s a word association game. Students all start with the same word (in this case use the seasons then weather words) as the starting word then the person in the pair who’s going first says a word they associate with the starting word. Then the partner says one they associate with their partners’ word.</p> <p>Eg. Teacher – “Summer” Student A – “Beach” Student B – “the sea” Student A – “swimming” Student B – “football” etc. etc.</p> <p>It goes on like this until one of the pair either repeat a word or can’t think of anything to say. The winner of each round could get a point.</p>
4. Is that an ant in your salad?	<p>Task 3 is a reading task from the Trend UK website. It’s about how the way of life in Britain changes as the summer comes. You could give students some examples from your own experiences of how the British way of life changes to a certain extent when the sun shines!</p> <p>Ask students to discuss the questions before they read – monitor and get feedback. Then ask the students to read the text, and answer the questions. They can compare their answers before correcting.</p>
5. Summer Party	<p>If you are using this activity at the end of term and there’s a chance you could organise a</p>

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	<p>real end of term party for your class you could do this task and actually have the party you plan. If not viable it's still a good way to get students to talk – an imaginary party is better than nothing! Put students in groups, they can discuss the questions and make a party plan then present it to the other groups and you could vote on which party sounds the most fun.</p>
6. Seasonal posters	<p>This is a creative task probably better suited to younger students with a reasonable level of English. Let them work in pairs or groups. You could divide the class into four groups and give each group one of the seasons to work with.</p> <p>An 'Acrostics' is a way of linking words together using the letters within a stem word. For example:</p> <p>Windy days Icy hailstones Night falls early Temperature's low Everyone's sad Remembering summer</p> <p>The first letters could also appear in the middle of words to make it easier. Students should work together to produce the acrostics then display it on a poster with images of the season as the background. If you have space these would make a nice wall display for the class or the corridor. For younger students it can be really motivating for them to see their work on show.</p>

Contributed by

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