Gossip!

Topic
Gossip

Aims
• To give students practice in asking and answering questions
• To give students speaking practice
• To develop students' speaking and writing skills

Age group
Teens

Level
B1

Time
60 minutes

Materials
• Gossip! student worksheet

Introduction
Lots of our students like reading and talking about celebrity gossip (although not everyone admits it!). In this lesson students take part in a role playing game in which a celebrity couple are interviewed by a journalist. Then they work in groups to write a report for a gossip magazine.

Procedure
1. Lead in: Discussion (10 minutes)
   • Introduce the subject of gossip and celebrities. Write these discussion questions on the board and put students into small groups to discuss them for five minutes.

   Where do you find gossip about celebrities?
   Who are the celebrities in the news at the moment?
   What is the latest celebrity gossip?
   Which celebrity couples can you name?
2. Task 1: Role Play (20 minutes)

- Divide students into three groups; A, B and C. Explain that they are going to play a role playing game. Give each student a role card (A, B or C). Ask the As, Bs and Cs to all work together at this stage.

- In their groups, students read their role cards and work together, following the instructions to prepare for the role play. *Note: At this stage, the members of each group will be preparing for the same role. If the groups are big, split them into smaller groups.*

- Monitor students at the preparation stage. Make sure they plan the role play, make notes and discuss the role they are going to play.

- Regroup students into groups of three; an A, a B and a C. Students play their roles, with the journalist asking questions and prompting the guests and the two celebrities answering. Monitor students as they play, making a note of any errors that you consider important. Don't interrupt the role playing. Address any errors when the activity is finished. Invite a group of three to act out their role play for the rest of the class.

3. Task 2 - Write a report for a gossip magazine (20-30 minutes)

- Students stay in their groups of three to write a report for a gossip magazine, using the information from the television show role-play. First students note down the main ideas. Then they plan the report paragraph by paragraph. They write a rough draft, then they edit it, checking carefully for things that need to be changed. Finally they write the finished report on task 2 worksheet. Display the reports on the wall so that groups can read and comment on each other’s work.

Contributed by

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