

Topic

School holidays

Aims

- To practise speaking skills
- To practise reading skills
- To have a discussion about advantages and disadvantages of particular jobs

Age group

Teenagers aged 13-18

Level

CEF Level B1+

Time

60-90 minutes

Materials

School holidays student worksheet

Introduction

This is a lesson that can be used as you near the end of term and everyone is looking forward to a long break from school. Students will look back at the academic year that is ending, brainstorm vocabulary connected to holidays and do a class survey. They will also look at holiday jobs and read about holiday trends in the UK. Finally, students will plan their ideal school holiday in groups.

Procedure

1. Introduce the topic: thinking about the last school year. (5 minutes)	<p>When the end of an academic year comes near it can be a good idea to ask your students to think about the year that's just gone.</p> <p>It can also be a useful time to get some feedback from your students on the parts of the class they've really enjoyed and the activities they may not have found so useful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask students to complete the sentences on their own first and then to compare their answers with a partner or in a small group.
2. It's nearly the school holidays (5-10 minutes)	<p>Task 2 can be done using the board as a group brainstorm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask students to close their eyes and think about the school holidays. • Ask them what they thought of and write the words around the bubble to make a mind map. You could add to it too. If you think of completely different things to your students, ask each other why you thought of those things and compare your school holiday experiences.
3. Class survey (10-15 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask students to add two questions of their own to the survey and then interview four of their classmates and make notes of their answers in the table. • If you have a large class, put students into groups of five. If you have a smaller class, students can walk around the room and interview other students. • When everyone has finished ask students to feedback their findings to the whole class.
4. Hobby or holiday? Reading task (10-15 minutes)	<p>This is a reading task for higher levels taken from the British Council's Trend UK team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-teach difficult vocabulary from the text to check understanding and make dictionaries available if necessary. • When students have finished reading the text, ask them to answer the questions. They should make notes on their own first and then discuss their answers with a partner.
5. Holiday jobs (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you've ever had any holiday jobs, tell your students about them. • To make this more interactive, turn it into a guessing game. Students can ask you 'yes/no questions to find out as much information as possible before guessing the job. • Go through the list of typical holiday jobs and make sure they know what each job entails. Put students into groups to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each job and then hold a class vote to decide on the best job.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You could extend this task by asking students how much they would expect to be paid per hour for each job and discussing what they would buy with their extra holiday money.
6. Ideal holiday (15-20 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Put students into small groups or pairs and ask them to think about their ideal holiday. Money is no object so they can do whatever they like.Students should discuss their ideas in their group or with a partner and then tell the rest of the class about their ideal holiday. If you like, you could hold a class vote to see which holiday is the most popular.If you can, bring in some maps and holiday brochures to give students some ideas. If you have internet access you could ask students to find their flights, accommodation and to find things to do on their trip. You could make this more challenging by setting a budget.

Contributed by

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