Lesson plan: Football and motivation

Jack Radford - Premier Skills English

Age: 13+  Level: A2+  60 mins

Materials: Handout 1 - Quotes
Handout 2 - Role play
Premier Skills English website

Organisation: small groups, individuals, pair work, open class

Aim: to help students develop a positive self-concept / improve student motivation

Introduction: Motivation is an essential part of learning a skill. This lesson combines traditional approaches to motivation with the role of a self-concept in motivation.

The traditional approaches include:

- The topic - football is probably the most popular sport in the world so the subject matter is motivating.
- The tasks - the activities are designed to offer variety which should maintain the strength of the learners' desire throughout the lesson and the final activity focuses on fluency which can give learners a sense of progress.

In professional sports psychology, athletes and coaches recognise the value of a positive self-concept and practise visualising success. In this lesson, learners are encouraged to compare themselves to professional footballers who have moved to the UK to play. They will be asked to visualise a successful future-self living and prospering in the UK or another English speaking country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Procedure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Discussion    | Divide the class into small groups. Write the five questions on the board and ask learners to answer the questions together.  
1. Why is it important to learn English?  
2. Do you speak English regularly?  
3. Who will you speak English with in the future?  
4. Where will you speak English in the future?  
5. Do you have a favourite word or phrase in English?  
Tell the learners to write down the best answers from the group. Monitor your learners, looking for interesting answers. After your learners have finished discussing and have written down their answers, nominate members from each group and ask them to share their ideas with the class. |
| Watch         | Premier Skills English – Player Interviews  
Ask the learners to watch the video on Premier Skills English.  
http://premierskillenglish.britishcouncil.org/players/player-interviews/topic-english |
| Watch: feedback | Hand out 1: Quotes  
Ask the learners to work in pairs and complete the quotes with the words the players say. |
Lesson plan: Football and motivation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Procedure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion: feedback</td>
<td>Ask the learners to return to their small groups from the start of the lesson to compare their answers from the discussion with the players’ ideas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Role play: preparation| Tell the learners that before they do the role play, they have to do a visualisation exercise. Tell the learners the date (10 years in the future). Tell them that they are like the Premier League players and have moved to England (or another English speaking country) to work and have become really successful.  
  
  Hand out 2: Future selves  
  Ask the learners to look at the future-selves questions and think about the questions. There is no need for the students to make notes, but they can if they want. |
| Role play             | Tell the learners that they are going to take part in a role play interview for a popular weekly magazine.                                                                                                
  
  The magazine in your country runs a feature on successful expats (people living abroad). Your learners are going to take turns playing journalists or their future selves. Tell the journalists that they can use the questions on the future-selves handout or they can make them up. Ask the learners to watch the video on Premier Skills English.  
  
  This is a fluency activity so it is important that you give your learners time to repeat the role play, each time, swapping between reporter and successful expat. Give each learner the opportunity to play the journalist and expat 3 times. Be sure to have your learners swap partners each time.  
  
  If you have room, you can arrange the chairs in your classroom into two rows with learners facing one another. This way, you can have one set of students move left and the whole class will have new partners. |
| Role play: feedback   | Keep the feedback focused on the future-selves. Ask learners who has the most interesting future plans.                                                                                                  |
Why is it important for young people to learn English?

Complete the quotes with the language from the video.

Alex Kacaniklic: First of all, it's the _________ ________ ________ there is, for me it's important to know it.

José Fonte: It's very important because everywhere in the world someone will speak English to you so you need to know a little bit of English so you can _________ ________ ________ and it must be one of the most talked languages in the world.

Vincent Kompany: It is the most spoken language in the world. It does give you a chance to communicate with so many _________ ________ ________ ________ and I'm not speaking about just English but worldwide.

Serge Gnabry: English is the first language of the world so I think it's very important. Everywhere you go you can communicate with people so you _________ ________ ________.
Role play - Future selves

**Job:**
- What is your job?
- Where do you work?
- How do you get to work?
- Who do you work with?

**Home:**
- Do you live in a house or a flat?
- Is it a big house?
- What are your neighbours like?

**Family:**
- Are you married?
- Do you have children?
- Do you have any pets?

**Daily routine:**
- What time do you get up?
- What do you have for lunch?

**Shopping:**
- Where do you do your grocery shopping?
- Where do you go shopping for clothes?

**English:**
- How has English helped you in your career?