

Activity Type

Writing Exercises: listing, writing and reading mini-dialogues, writing email replies

Focus

Asking for and giving advice

Aim

To learn language for asking and giving advice.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two-page worksheet for each student.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

50 minutes

Introduction

Here is a giving advice worksheet to help students learn how to ask for and give advice on everyday topics.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the two-page worksheet.

Go through the language for asking and giving advice with the class.

Students then write a list of six things that they would ask advice for, e.g. a low GPA, a broken heart, etc.

Next, students write mini-dialogues, asking for and giving advice on their six topics.

After that, the students role-play the mini-dialogues with a partner.

The students then pretend they run an online advice column.

Students read three emails asking for advice and write replies, giving the best advice they can.

Finally, the students read out their replies and the other students say whether they agree with the advice or not.

Asking for Advice

- What do you think I should do (about...)?
- What should I do (about...)?
- What would you suggest I do ...?
- Can / Could you give me some advice (about...)?



Giving Advice

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|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| I think you should... | How about (verb+ing...)? |
| Why don't you...? | You might try (verb+ing...) |
| If I were you, I would... | I would advise you to... |
| Maybe you should... | My advice would be to... |
| I suggest you... | It might be a good idea to... |

A. Write a list of six things you would ask advice for.

Examples: a low GPA, a broken heart, changing job, etc.

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|---------|---------|
| 1. | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | 6. |

B. Write mini-dialogues, asking for and giving advice on your six topics. Use the language above to help you.

Example: A: What do you think I should do about my low GPA?
 B: I think you should try harder in every class.

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|-------------|----------|
| 1. A: | B: |
| 2. A: | B: |
| 3. A: | B: |
| 4. A: | B: |
| 5. A: | B: |
| 6. A: | B: |

C. Now, role-play the mini-dialogues with a partner.

D. You run an online advice column called 'Dear John'. Read the emails asking for advice and write a reply to each one. Try to give the best advice you can. Remember to use language for giving advice in your response.



Dear John,

I study at university. We have our final exams in two weeks. I'm very worried about my best friend. He is planning to cheat in the upcoming examinations. What should I do?

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Dear John,

My friends keep complaining that I spend too much time with my boyfriend. They say I never hang out with them anymore. I don't want to lose my friends, but at the same time, I want to see my boyfriend as much as possible. What would you suggest I do?

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Dear John,

I'm having a real problem with my roommate. I like to keep our apartment clean, but my roommate is very messy. She throws her clothes and stuff all over the place, while I'm trying hard to keep the apartment neat and tidy. What do you think I should do?

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E. Read out your replies to the class. Do the other students agree with your advice?