

Activity Type

Speaking Activity:
guided discussion,
communicative practice
(group work)

Focus

Gerunds and infinitives
with *to*

Aim

To practice gerunds and
infinitives with *to* by
discussing various topics.

Preparation

Make one copy of the
cards for each group of
three or four and cut as
indicated.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

In this gerunds and infinitives speaking activity, students talk about various topics using gerunds and infinitives with *to*.

Procedure

Divide the students into groups of three or four.

Give each group a set of cards.

Ask the students to shuffle the cards and place them face-down in a pile on the desk.

Tell the students they are going to practice gerunds and infinitives with *to* by discussing various topics.

Explain to students that just because the card may read as either a gerund or an infinitive statement, it does not mean that the answer needs to follow suit.

For example, if the card reads as, "the best way to get rich", students could say something like, "The best way to get rich is to ..." or "The best way to get rich is by ..."

Students take it in turns to pick up a card and start the discussion. Encourage students to ask for and give as much information as possible.

Monitor and help students with their use of gerunds and infinitives where necessary.

Afterwards, get feedback from around the class on some of the things the students discussed.

the best way to learn a language

the things you do to relax after a long day

something you started to do but decided to stop doing

things you enjoy doing on the weekend

something you find difficult to talk about in English

the best way to make new friends

a film that's good to watch when you're feeling sad

a sport you really like playing

somebody you would like to meet

something you've decided to do in the future

something you need to buy soon

something you wanted to be when you were younger

things that are important to do if you go for a job interview

something you think is important to teach young children

something you learned as a child but can't do now

the things you think are important to do for a healthy life

why tourists enjoy visiting your country

something you sometimes forget to do before going to bed