

Request for FT Session 5, Lucas Denton

In my (Lucas Denton) class we asked each other what we did with our friends and practiced asking follow-up questions about the activities. Then, in pairs students compared university schedules to find a time where they were both available for a job interview, for guiding a friend around Sapporo, and for going on a date.

Students struggled to think of what they did with their friends, though they came up with a few activities – video games, shopping, karaoke, baseball, eating out, movies, festivals, fireworks, staying home, a walk and a drive. If students are struggling to think of what they do, these could be good suggestions.

The language content focus for this class is:

- Answering “What do you usually do with your friends?”, “What do you want to do on a date?” and follow-up questions
- Using the phrases “Are you free on ...”, “How about ...”, “We could ...”, “Nice idea, but ...”, “Sorry, ...”, “Where shall we meet?” to negotiate an activity, time and meeting location.

I will attach the base script which we used in class to practice with. I would like students to use some of the phrases in the script to decide on a time and activity with teachers. Some scenarios could be: booking workshop (eg art, cooking), choosing a movie, scheduling a sports trainer, ordering Uber Eats

Caution points:

- I would like to request that teachers give students a reasonable amount of time to try and remember on their own before giving hints in the form of examples (eg. where -> 10 seconds thinking -> “Fast food? Restaurant?”). A little silence while students think is okay.
- I would like teachers to limit correction, as having students repeat themselves in correct English risks discouraging their willingness to speak. Asking “Do you mean ...?” to show the correct English indirectly is fine.

My plan for this lesson:

- 15 minutes: Students share about the activities they do with their friends. Teachers ask basic follow-up questions with “who”, “where” etc. Teachers can also ask if students do certain activities.
- 15 minutes: Students use the key words to decide on an activity/day/time

The above applies to Tuesday class 1&2, Friday class 3&4.

Please try to speak slowly and simply, especially when explaining about today’s activities, and the microphone – if the explanation is difficult, students will just say “okay” even if they don’t understand. Thanks very much.

Practice making a plan

Friend A

Are you free on _____ *day* _____?

How about we _____ *activity* _____?

answer: details about activity

Oh. We could _____ *alternative suggestion* _____

How about _____ *time* _____?

Ok, how about _____ *time* _____?

We could meet _____ *place* _____

Friend B

Yeah, I'm free. Why?

question about activity
What/where _____?

Nice idea, but _____ *problem* _____

Sounds good. What time shall we meet?

Sorry, _____ *problem* _____

Great. Where shall we meet?

Ok, sounds good.