Learning to Learn: Speaking





Read the tips, and tick the ones you think are useful. Discuss in class.

Ten Golden Speaking Tips

- 1 Stick to the topic. Be both general and specific.
- 2 Don't be nervous nobody is perfect, even in their mother tongue.
- 3 If you don't remember the right word, use one with a similar meaning.
- 4 Ask the teacher to repeat the question if you're not sure that you've understood it.
- 5 Use conversation fillers (Well, I think, for example etc.).
- 6 Avoid using the same words and structures all the time.
- 7 Show that you have rich vocabulary and use of structures.
- 8 Give examples of what you are talking about.
- 9 Don't translate in your head try to look and sound natural.
- 10 Keep talking. Don't be afraid of making minor mistakes.

Tips for assessing speaking

Mark 1

 can't make a sentence, even with the help of the teacher

Mark 2

 needs teacher's help all the time and makes a lot of • makes mistakes

Mark 3

- uses simple structures
- needs some help
- mistakes

Mark 4

- doesn't need help
- is mostly accurate and fluent
- can't always find the right words

Mark 5

- · doesn't need help
- speaks accurately and fluently
- makes longer sentences



SPEAKING

Talk about school uniforms. Use useful phrases and ideas from the table below.

> I agree because • I don't agree because In my opinion • I think that

ADVANTAGES

bigger responsibility less bullying (mocking) feeling grown-up school (group) identity no class differences

DISADVANTAGES

uncomfortable old-fashioned lack of identity less original / personal too formal







Learning to Learn: Speaking





Discuss these topics in your group, and then present your conclusions in class.

1 Soap operas

typical scenes, acting, complicated, black and white characters, love and hatred

2 Reality shows

boring or interesting, different, talent shows, curiosity, one-hit wonders, shocking

3 Men and women

how different they are, whether there is equality, what their interests and hobbies are

4 In the media

bad news sells, how brainwashed we are, lies and truths of advertising

5 Celebrity fears

lack of privacy, paparazzi, pressure, overnight success and failure, celeb kids

D Talk about one of the topics below for 1 minute.

- Mobile phones should / shouldn't be banned at school.
- Students should / shouldn't wear slippers at school.
- Detention should / shouldn't be introduced in schools.
- Students should / shouldn't be given homework.





READING



Read the text about world problems.

There are so many world problems in this day and age! Some are climate-related and some are economy-related. The biggest problem is that so many people, not only in Africa, starve to death daily. On the other hand, there are people who own millions that they don't need. Why do rich people need huge houses with twenty bedrooms when they sleep in only one? Why do we throw away food leftovers and buy more than we need when so many people are in need? Isn't it bad enough that there is such great poverty in most countries? The climate has changed, and we don't have the four seasons any more. Global warming, pollution, nuclear threats, terrorism, hurricanes, floods, tsunamis, etc... Is this the end of the world as we know it?



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F Talk about the world problems in Task E. Find out more about some of the problems, and prepare a 1-minute presentation for homework.









- G Discuss these questions about the advantages and disadvantages of living in the country, in the city or on an island. Prepare your presentation in groups, and discuss in class.
 - Does living in the country make us eco-friendly?
 - Can we really grow organic food if our closest neighbours use chemicals?
 - Is life away from the city more peaceful when you are afraid all the time that your crops might be destroyed by bad weather?
 - Are children safer in villages only because there is less traffic there?
 - Is life in the country more boring if you have so much to do working in the fields and raising the animals?
 - Do we really need so many shopping malls when we could live without them in the past?
 - Are theatres, cinemas and concert places in the city closed for visitors from the country?
 - Are commuters stressed out because they travel to the city to work every day, or happy because they live in closer contact with nature?
 - What do people who live on islands do after the tourists are gone?
 - How can they get to the nearest hospital when they are in need, or even to the mainland?











Teacher's Notes



Worksheet	Learning to Learn: Speaking
Years	7/8
Topic	Speaking skill
Key language	Tips for students, example tasks, assessment tips, Q and A, should/shouldn't
Aims	Providing speaking tips for students, with various speaking tasks and assessment tips for teachers.
Duration	90 minutes
Procedure	Lesson 1
	A Ss read the ten golden speaking tips, which the T explains in detail. The T and Ss comment on the assessment tips.
	B Ss talk about school uniforms using some useful phrases and ideas from the table.
	C In groups, Ss discuss one of the five topics with the help of the prompts. Each group member has to say at least 1 sentence after 10 minutes of group discussion.
	Lesson 2
	D Volunteers choose one of the 4 topics about school and talk about its advantages and disadvantages for 1 minute. Ss need to use the modal verbs <i>should /shouldn't</i> for presenting their arguments.
	E Ss read the text about some world problems and discuss them in class.
	F Ss read the questions from the text about the advantages and disadvantages of living in the country, in the city or on an island. Ss need to answer the questions and give their opinions.
References	Various online materials on ESL.
Correlation	None.
Homework	Ss will find out more about the world problems mentioned in the text in Task E. They will report their findings to the class.
Answer key	Students' own answers.

