Change your Mind

Activity Type

Grammar and Speaking Activity: asking and answering questions from prompts, controlled and freer practice

Focus

be going to for future plans

will for spontaneous decisions

Aim

To ask about future plans with *be going to* and to make spontaneous decisions with *will*.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each group of ten and cut into cards as indicated. Be careful to cut and fold as shown on the worksheet.

Level

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time

20 minutes

Introduction

In this future tenses speaking activity, students ask about future plans with *be going to* and to make spontaneous decisions with *will*.

Procedure

Write the phrase 'change your mind' on the board and elicit the meaning from the class. Ask the students if they ever change their mind about things and ask them to give examples.

Tell the students that they are going to ask and answer questions about their plans for tomorrow and make spontaneous decisions using cards as prompts.

Give each student one folded card. If there are more than ten students in the class, divide them into groups.

Write an example dialogue on the board, indicating the language the students should use during the activity.

Example:

A: Are you going to go to the gym tomorrow?
B: No, I think I'll play tennis.

Explain that Student A asks about Student B's plan for tomorrow, but Student B has changed his or her mind and uses *will* to make a spontaneous decision. This is why there are two prompts on the 'decision' side of the card. The student makes a decision at the moment of speaking by choosing one of the prompts.

Students then begin the activity. Students hold their card so the side marked 'Plan' is facing them and the side marked 'Decision' is facing away.

Students go around the class or group asking their questions to as many different partners as possible.

When a student asks the question on their card, their partner uses *will* to make a spontaneous decision about the plan by choosing from the two prompts.

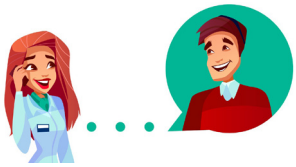
In the activity, students repeat the same question several times, but practice making different decisions each time they change partner.

When the students have spoken to several partners, they exchange cards and repeat the activity. Repeat this several times so the students practice asking different questions each time they change cards.

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Change your Mind

Fold

Plan		Decision
go to the gym?		play tennis go cycling
wake up early?		sleep in wake up on time
do your homework?		hand it in late study for your test
wash the dishes?		tidy your bedroom do the gardening
cook dinner?		eat at a restaurant get some food delivered
take the bus to class?		ride your bicycle take a taxi
call me?		send you a text chat to you online
meet me before class?		meet you after class see you in class
go to bed early?		watch TV go out with friends
go shopping?		save your money go to the cinema

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