

NILE Online CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES, INTERACTION AND MOTIVATION Course Content

Unit 1: Introductions

In this unit you will learn to use the learning platform, introduce yourselves and get a general overview of the content, your teaching contexts and discuss what we mean by classroom activities.

Unit 2: Effective Classroom Activities

This unit looks at what makes good classroom activities. You're going to learn to say what the aims are for some activities. There will be a focus on vocabulary learning, so here we will think about the importance of vocabulary recycling and look at a range of activities for reviewing vocabulary. Finally you will either teach a vocabulary activity or watch one being taught.

Unit 3: Interaction

In this unit we are going to look at why we need to encourage students to interact with each other in classroom activities. There are many different interaction patterns we can include in a class. You are going to think about the benefits of each of these. Then we will focus particularly on speaking activities and you are going to explore several different speaking activity-types. You will then watch a presentation about setting effective discussion questions. Finally we will meet online for a live webinar where we will have a discussion ourselves about common problems teachers face in speaking classes and how we can encourage students to interact more.

Unit 4: Motivation

In this unit we are going to look at motivation. You will start by thinking about what motivates people in general. And then you will use this knowledge to discuss how to make language learning activities more motivating. The other focus for this unit is writing, as teachers often ask how to motivate their students to write. We'll ask why students may not want to write and then you'll look at several classroom writing activities that should make them much more enthusiastic about writing. Finally, we'll take a look at a collaborative writing project and share your ideas for one you could use to motivate your own students.

Unit 5: Classroom Management

In this unit we are looking at classroom management for different stages of activities. We will especially look at giving good instructions. We'll see that classroom management is different for different contexts (where you work, who your students are, etc.). Then we'll look at a range of short activities that can be used at the

beginning or end of a lesson, or when we need to wake students up or calm them down. Finally, we'll plan the stages and instructions for one activity. We'll share this with our course colleagues.

Unit 6: Building and Sharing a Bank of Activities

In this unit you are going to look at different ways that teachers can find new classroom activities. You will think about both paper and digital sources. Then you will focus on grammar activities and try to find some useful activities to satisfy particular grammar learning aims. After that you will look at some ways of storing and organising the classroom activities that you discover so you can easily find them the next time you need them. Finally you will look at ways you can share activities and resources online with colleagues. The work in this unit will be particularly useful for your final assignment.

Unit 7: Evaluating, Adapting and Devising Activities

In this unit you are going to look at some ways of evaluating classroom activities. Then you will learn about some ways to adapt them where necessary, so they are more effective for your students. Finally there will be some hints for creating your own activities, and this will help you to make an activity yourself. The focus of this unit will be receptive skills – that is listening and reading activities.

Unit 8: Course Review and Assignment Preview

In this final unit we will review the whole course and look at what you need to do for your assignment. You will have the opportunity to try out tasks from both assignments, so you can choose which one you want to do and get some feedback before you start the real thing. Finally we'll have a virtual goodbye party!

ASSIGNMENT

A choice of two assignments:

1. Find and evaluate four activities for a particular learning aim and group of learners.
2. Find two activities from the course and plan how to use them in a lesson with a particular group. Use them and reflect on how effective they were.