

Role-Playing

Use role-playing to expand your lessons and reinforce vocabulary and structures.

Before expecting students to perform successfully in role-playing exercises, consider the following:

1. Discuss the situation beforehand so that students can familiarize themselves with the topic as well as with necessary vocabulary and structure.
2. Teach a dialogue as a primer, or allow students to prepare themselves in pairs or small groups. (See section on Pair Practice.)
3. Have students do each role-playing exercise twice. The first time do it with teacher participation and the second time without.
4. Encourage students to vary situations and be creative.
5. Don't over-correct. Note major mistakes; discuss and correct them later. To practice active listening, have the class note errors, too.
6. Discuss the role-playing exercise afterward for students' reaction and interpretations.

Some Basic Situations:

Asking and giving street directions

Looking at and asking questions about a new apartment

Calling the telephone operator for information

Buying an item in a store

Going on a job interview

Speaking to a doctor, dentist or pharmacist

Getting a driver's license

introducing and meeting people at a party

Making or canceling an appointment

Leaving a message

Asking a postal clerk about correct postage

Cashing a check

Opening a checking or savings account

Organizing a party; ordering food at a restaurant.

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