
e-lesson

Week starting: July 13, 2009

1. Litter

This week's lesson is based on a conversation featuring differing views on the subject of litter.

Level

Intermediate and above (equivalent to CEF level B1 and above).

How to use the lesson

1. Ask your students if they consider their local area clean, and more specifically, if they think there is much litter. Should litter be considered a serious problem? Why do they think people litter? How often have they themselves done so? Do they think there are some places or circumstances in which littering is acceptable, and if so, what are they?
2. Give your students between five and ten minutes to read through Worksheet A, encouraging them to look up new vocabulary. Note that a few of the words that might be new are not in the glossary because they form part of Exercise 1.
3. Give each student a copy of Worksheet B, then divide the class into pairs and ask students to work together. In Exercise 1, they have to find the words to match the definitions; and in Exercise 2, they must answer the true / false / doesn't determine questions.
4. Check answers in open class.
5. Keeping the students in their pairs, and reminding them not to look at Worksheet A, ask them to attempt Exercise 3 on Worksheet C, which contains the text from Worksheet A with 20 incorrect words that they have to identify and correct. The words containing the mistakes are all in bold, as are five other words that are correct. Point out that the mistakes are all grammatical or lexical, and that no correction requires them to write more than one additional word.

Answers:**Exercise 1** (definitions)

1. in; shoes 2. deliberately 3. downtown 4. chill out
5. wrapper 6. fine 7. blame 8. spoil 9. throw 10. packaging

Exercise 2 (true/false/doesn't say)

1. D 2. T 3. F 4. T 5. F 6. T 7. D 8. D

Exercise 3

2. this 3. cans 4. potato 5. wrappers 7. disgusting 8. out 9. end
11. lack 13. high 14. horse 15. provide 16. with 17. joking 18. deliberately
19. there'd 20. less 21. out of work 22. unemployment 24. up 25. bet
Words in bold that are correct: 1. downtown 6. in 10. attitudes
12. public 23. easier

2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.litterproject.com/>

The website of LitterProject, a charitable organization with lots of suggestions about how everybody can make a difference in cleaning up litter. Intermediate level and above.

<http://www.komonews.com/news/local/7001622.html>

A state of Washington news article from 2007, highlighting the potentially fatal danger of roadside litter (see if your students can spot the typos: one in the first paragraph, and one in the last!). Challenging for intermediate level.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I7u_0xNmVog

An example of the TV ad campaign mentioned in the above news article, featuring the slogan “Litter and it will hurt.” Accessible to intermediate level.

<http://www.kabman.org/movie3.html>

A short cartoon movie of the adventures of Keep America Beautiful man and his littering enemy, the Fast Food Rapper. Accessible to intermediate level.