

Motivation

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Activity 1

How does your English teacher motivate you to study English? What do you think an English teacher should do to motivate his/her students? For example: Should he/she test students regularly, teach lots of grammar or do lots of roleplays in class? Discuss your ideas with your partner.

Activity 2

How do you motivate people to do things for you? Do you offer to help them if they help you? Do you encourage them, bribe them, threaten them? Discuss your motivating strategies with your partner.

Activity 3

Do you always find it easy to motivate yourself to do something? In Column 1 below make a list of the things you find it easy to get round to doing. In Column 2 below make a list of the things you tend to put off. Which column is 'Studying English' in? Discuss your lists (and why you find it easy/difficult to motivate yourself) with your partner.

Column 1

Column 2

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Activity 4

Discuss how you motivate yourself in the following circumstances. Does your partner motivate himself/herself in the same way?

to watch a film in English to read a book in English
to come to English lessons to do homework to learn new words

Activity 5

Read the sentence below and decide if it is true or false, and why. Discuss your answer with your partner.

An English teacher is responsible for motivating his/her students to study.

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Activity 6

*Do you think an English teacher is responsible for motivating his/her students to study? You are going to take part in a discussion about this question on an Internet Forum at **EnglishClub.com**.*

Task 1

1. *Did most people agree or disagree that an English teacher is responsible for motivating his/her students to study?*
2. *What was the most common reason given for agreeing or disagreeing?*

Task 2

1. *Read the post your teacher has put on the board at: <http://forum.englishclub.com/projects/> and summarize the main points.*
2. *Choose one point from your teacher's post which you strongly agree or disagree with and post a short paragraph in reply, stating your reasons and giving examples from your own experience where possible.*

Task 3

1. *Read the responses other students post to your teacher. Choose one you strongly agree with and one you strongly disagree with and post responses, explaining your opinion.*
2. *Make notes of the new words and phrases you have learned from participating in this Forum discussion activity that will help you to communicate your point of view on this subject in a classroom discussion.*

N.B. Netiquette!

PLEASE CHANGE THE DEFAULT SUBJECT LINE TO INDICATE THE OPINION/S IN YOUR POST BECAUSE IN A BUSY THREAD IT HELPS PEOPLE TO DECIDE WHICH POSTS TO READ!

Activity 7

Have you seen 'Dead Poets' Society' starring Robin Williams? It's a thought-provoking film about a teacher who motivates his students to learn in very unusual ways. Why not try to see it in the original language?

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