

Let it snow!: Teaching suggestions

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(page 1 of 2)

Activity 1

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1. Get a student to read the instructions out loud and check that the students understand them.
2. Let the students begin their conversation, in English, in pairs or small groups.
3. Monitor closely.
4. Stop the activity.
5. Elicit feedback.

Activity 2

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1. Get a student to read the instructions out loud and check that the students understand them.
2. Let the students do the exercise in pairs.
3. Monitor closely.
4. Stop the activity.
5. Do some error correction.
6. Consolidate pronunciation.
7. Elicit feedback. (There's no need to define the words – the next exercise will do that for you).

Activity 3

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1. Get a student to read the instructions out loud and check that the students understand them.
2. Let the students do the exercise individually then check in pairs.
3. Monitor closely.
4. Stop the activity.
5. Elicit feedback.

Answers:

1. snow-blind
 2. snowboard
 3. snowbound
 4. snowdrops
 5. snowfall
 6. snowflake
 7. snowline
 8. snowplough
 9. snowstorm...snowdrifts
 10. snowshoes
6. Consolidate pronunciation.

Activity 4

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1. Get a student to read the instructions out loud and check that the students understand them.
2. Let the students begin their conversation, in English, in pairs or small groups.
3. Monitor closely.
4. Stop the activity.
5. Elicit feedback.

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(page 2 of 2)

Activity 5

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If your students don't have access to computers in the classroom, set this for homework.

1. Switzerland, France, Austria, Italy and the USA.
2. The starting zone, the avalanche track and the runout zone.
3. You should try to 'swim' through it and stay as near the surface of it as possible.
4. Read the Quick Quiz below. You will need to go through the answers with your students because the answers are not available to them at EnglishClub.com. The students read a short text connected with the TP subject then answer gap-fill questions on the text. The first letter of each word of each of the gaps is then taken and rearranged to make a word connected to the TP subject.

Quick Quiz

1. Avalanches are large areas of snow which slide down the side of a MOUNTAIN with tremendous force.
2. If you have the misfortune to find yourself caught up in an avalanche it is suggested that you try to 'SWIM' through it.
3. In frequent avalanche zones the local authorities may even set OFF an avalanche deliberately (under strictly controlled conditions) in order to avoid a build-up of snow.
4. Weather conditions can WORSEN in the blink of an eye.
5. Avalanches tend to occur most in the ALPINE countries of France, Switzerland, Italy and Austria.
6. In the last 50 years the NUMBER of fatalities due to avalanches has increased noticeably.
7. Sometimes it only takes a loud NOISE to trigger an avalanche.

Answers: SNOWMAN (S for SWIM [2] N for NUMBER [6], O for OFF [3], W for WORSEN [4] M for MOUNTAIN [1], A for ALPINE [5], N for NOISE [7]).

Activity 6

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This activity can be set as homework to be followed up and consolidated in a future lesson generating more discussion. Did students find that most people agreed or disagreed with the question? What reasons were put forward in each case? Did the students read anything which changed their minds on the topic? (etc.)

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