

III. Getting Things Done

- Give and respond to informal and somewhat formal suggestions and indirect requests.

Task Make a suggestion to a friend or co-worker for how to be more active and provide an appropriate reason.

Tool Peer Evaluation – Sticky Notes

This task can be used in a unit on active living, but may be adapted for other themes in which making suggestions is an appropriate task (e.g., choosing a bank account, joining a class at a community centre, etc.). The tool can be adapted for a range of different speaking tasks.

1. Review target language for discussing the benefits of having an active lifestyle and the detriments of an inactive lifestyle.
2. Divide Ss into groups.
3. Distribute a set of scenario cards to each group. The cards should have situations in which people are suffering because they are not active, not eating properly, or are not making choices for a balanced lifestyle.
4. Explain and/or demonstrate the following procedure:
 - a. Have one student choose a card, read the scenario to the group, then give a suggestion for the person to make better choices, including a reason for the suggestion.
 - b. Have the group listen and use sticky notes to make comments on how the suggestion:
 - Is it an appropriate suggestion for the situation?
 - Is a good reason provided?
 - Is the suggestion clear and easily understood?
 - c. Have the group give the sticky notes to the speaker to read and use to improve performance next time. If necessary, provide/review some examples of appropriate feedback that Ss could give to each other before starting the activity.
5. As Ss engage in peer assessment, assess for yourself whether Ss have grasped the information for this unit, checking to see if they are able to provide suggestions to others.

Scenario:

Brad is constantly tired. He drives to work, sits at his desk all day. He drives home, then watches TV all night. He doesn't understand why he has no energy.

Suggestion:

Brad should work in some activity during his day - like taking a walk during his lunch hour.

Good suggestion. But, what's the reason? You could say - when you exercise you have more energy and feel less tired.