Classroom activity 4 — Preparing the conversation

**Grade:** GESE Grade 4 (CEFR A2)

**Focus:** The Conversation phase

**Time:** 2x 45 minutes

**Aims:**
- To prepare vocabulary for the subjects for conversation
- To practise asking and answering questions on the subjects for conversation
- To practise discussing the subjects for conversation interactively

**Materials needed:**
- Worksheet 1 — Subjects for conversation Grade 4
- Worksheet 2 — Grade 4 question cards

**Preparation**
1. To create interest, bring objects that represent the six Subjects for conversation. Ask the students to decide what each object represents. Suggestions for objects:
   - Holidays: holiday brochure, postcard, swimming costume
   - Shopping: a shopping bag
   - School and work: school books
   - Hobbies and sports: sports equipment
   - Food: a menu, a cake or other food

2. Before the lesson, put your Grade 4 objects on a table and cover them with a cloth or blanket. Don’t let the students look at them when they enter the room.

**In class**

**Session 1 — Planning questions**

**Students remember questions/prompts (10 minutes)**
1. Put all of the students into small groups of two (or three, if necessary).
2. Then ask the students to try and remember as many questions as possible that they have used for practising their topic. (The students should try to remember questions from Classroom activity 2 which they have already done.)
3. If the students haven’t prepared their topics yet, ask them to think of as many questions as possible to ask each other about their free time. Tell the students they have 6-7 minutes.

**Stimulate interest (10 minutes)**
1. Lift the blanket or cloth and show the class the objects that you have brought. Do not tell them what they represent.
2. Give them 1 minute to look at the objects and try to memorise them.
3. After 1 minute, cover the objects and tell the students they have 5 minutes to remember the objects and decide what they represent.
4. After 5 minutes, give the students Worksheet 1 and ask them, in their groups of two or three, to decide which object represents which Subject for Conversation.

**Question preparation (20 minutes)**
1. Give each group of two or three a set of question cards from Worksheet 2 (or re-use the question cards from Classroom activity 2 – Developing a topic). Tell the students they now have to use the question cards to create at least two or three questions for each subject for conversation on Worksheet 1.
2. Tell the students they have 15 minutes to think of all of their questions. Make sure that the students think of questions for all subjects.

3. Also, make sure that each student has written down some example questions on their own worksheet as they will need a copy for the next activity.

**Group feedback of example questions (5 minutes)**

Ask the class for example questions from each subject area.

**Session 2 — Students practise asking and answering questions**

Students interview each other about the Subjects for conversation (35 minutes)

1. The students have now practised making the questions. Now they need to practise answering them. Tell them they’re going to do it six times – once for each subject area.

2. Tell the students to find a partner and sit with a new person.

3. Tell the students that you are going to tell them a subject area for conversation and they have 5 minutes to ask each other questions about this subject – and answer the questions!

4. After 5 minutes, tell the students to stand up and go and sit with a new partner. Once they are sitting with a new partner, give the class a new subject for conversation and let them ask and answer questions for 5 minutes.

5. Repeat this activity, changing partners and subject for conversation every 5 minutes until the class has discussed all six subject areas for conversation.

**Class feedback (5 minutes)**

Ask the students to tell you their favourite questions of the lesson.

**Ask the teacher! (5 minutes)**

Take off the blanket or cloth from the objects on the table at the beginning of the lesson. Invite the class to ask you questions connected to the objects and the subjects areas that they represent.
Worksheet 1 – Subject areas for conversation

Holidays:

Shopping:

School and work:

Hobbies and sports:

Food:

Weekend and seasonal activities:
Worksheet 2 – example prompts for Grade 4

IMPORTANT! These are only example prompts. The real exam will contain other questions. (Cut these prompts into 18 individual cards)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are you going to...?</th>
<th>Where are you going to...?</th>
<th>When did you...?</th>
<th>Where did you...?</th>
<th>What did you...?</th>
<th>What was the best moment in your last...?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tell me about where you...</td>
<td>Tell me about what you...</td>
<td>How did you...?</td>
<td>What's the difference between... and...?</td>
<td>Is there a difference between... and...?</td>
<td>Tell me about the worst...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tell me about the best...</td>
<td>Tell me about your last...</td>
<td>Tell me about your next...</td>
<td>How often do you...?</td>
<td>What do you like and dislike about...?</td>
<td>When are you going to...?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>