

Choosing a topic

Grade: GESE Grades 10-12 (CEFR C1-C2)

Focus: The Topic presentation and Discussion phases

Time: 90 minutes (or less, depending on class size)

Aims:

- ▶ To practise giving a draft presentation
- ▶ To practise the Topic Discussion phase
- ▶ To gain ideas for redrafting presentations

Materials needed:

- ▶ A copy of the worksheet for each student

Preparation

1. Make copies of the worksheet for all students.

In class

Practice, feedback and discussion

1. Tell the students that they are going to practise giving their presentations to each other. Stress that their presentations will probably still be in the draft stages. Tell them that they will also ask and answer questions on their presentations and that this will be dual purpose: to give them practice of the Topic Discussion phase and to give them the opportunity to reflect on their presentations in order to continue drafting.
2. Put the students into groups of three and assign them A, B and C. Tell them the As will present first while Bs will listen and note down questions, and Cs will complete the checklist. Allow 15–20 minutes per student in order for them to present, get feedback and discuss their topics.
3. While students are presenting, go around the class, monitor and support.
4. After the 15–20 minutes, ask the students to swap roles.
5. Finish the lesson with class feedback.

After class

Students use the experience and the feedback they received to continue working on their presentations and preparing themselves for the discussion phase.

Worksheet – Topic presentation checklist

Worksheet	✓
<p>▶ Was the topic clearly identified at the beginning?</p>	
<p>▶ Did the speaker give a clear outline and sequence of the presentation?</p>	
Main presentation	
<p>▶ Were the main points of the topic clearly explained?</p>	
<p>▶ Did the speaker give examples and reasons for their opinions?</p>	
<p>▶ Was it easy to follow the sequence and structure of the argument?</p>	
<p>▶ Were there any pronunciation problems?</p>	
<p>▶ Was there anything you didn't understand? If so, why?</p>	

Conclusion	✓
<p>▶ Did the speaker summarise their presentation?</p>	
<p>▶ Was there a clear conclusion?</p>	
<p>▶ Did the speaker invite the listener to comment or ask questions?</p>	
Feedback	
<p>▶ What were the best parts of the presentation?</p>	
<p>▶ What improvements could the speaker make to the presentation?</p>	