Desert Island

Activity One: Model Verbs

Model verbs are not complete verbs, and they can only be used with a verb. Let's look at the sentences below using the three common model verbs.

- Hypothetical: **Would** you survive if you were stuck on an island?
- Obligation: **Should** humans have a basic understanding of first aid and survival skills?
- Ability: **Could** you live without electricity, running water and keep only 10% of your possessions?

Activity Two: Text

Read the following paragraph and then answer the questions

Which of your things you like the best? Are you a materialistic person who is very attached to their things or could you live without them? Do you think we should give importance to material things? If you were going to a desert island and you could only take five things with you from your house, which would you take with you?

Activity Three: Song – The Police

Listen to the song and fill the gaps

Just a castaway an ..... lost at ....., oh
Another lonely day, with no one here but me, oh
More loneliness than any ..... could bear
..... me before I fall into despair, oh

I'll send an S.O.S. to the .....
I'll send an S.O.S. to the .....
I hope that someone gets my
I hope that someone gets my
I hope that someone gets my
Message in a bottle, yeah
Message in a bottle, yeah

A year has passed since I wrote my note
But I ..... have known this right from the start
Only hope can keep me together
Love can mend your ..... but
Love can break your .....

CHORUS REPEATED

Walked out this morning, don't believe what I saw
Hundred billion ..... washed up on the shore
Seems I'm not alone at being alone
Hundred billion castaways,
looking for a .....
I'll send an S.O.S. to the .....

Activity Four: The 4 most important items
Think of 4 items that would be the most useful on a desert island. Put your ideas in a hat and as a group choose the most important four. Give good arguments to defend your 4 items and remember that everybody must agree on the 4 items.

Activity Five: What COULDN'T you do without?
If you had to get rid of everything you owned and then buy only ten essential items for your house what would you choose? Explain why you WOULD choose your 10 items and why you COULDN'T do without them.

Activity Six: Giving Advice
When we give advice we often use model verbs. We say:

If I were you I would….
You should really…
I think you should…
"Have you thought about…"?
"Why don't you…"?
"In your position, I would…"
"You should perhaps…"
"You could always…"

Brainstorm with your partner as many pieces of advice as possible for someone going on holiday to a desert island. As part of the advice try to convince them to take the things that YOU think are important. For example: I think you should take your flip flops because they are light, comfortable and compact.

Activity Seven: Role-plays
Simulate the following situations where you are giving advice:

- Your friend has to move to a really small apartment from a big house.
- Your friend is going on holiday to an unpopulated island and does not know how to swim.
- Your colleague is moving desks and will be next to a really messy person.
- Your friend has three brothers who are really untidy and she is complaining that she spends her whole time tidying up.

Activity Eight: Who would you invite?
If you COULD chose anyone you know or any famous person, who WOULD you invite to live on a desert island with you?