A Changing World

EAE Learning objectives for this lesson

Review and practice using modal verbs. Comprehension and discussion.
Learn and use new idiomatic expressions.

Activity One: Discussion Questions - Ask and Answer.

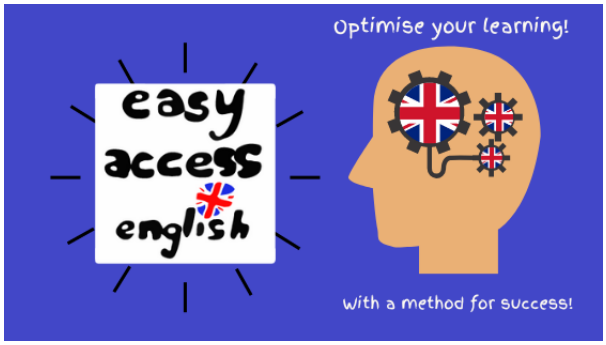
1. **Do you think the world is changing at a faster than usual rate?**
2. **Why could this be?**
3. **What has to change and what is going to change in your opinion?**
4. **What can we do to prepare ourselves for these changes?**



Activity Two: Read the text.

Change Your Brain for English

Recent discovery of the language-related brain areas by neuroscientists have added deeper understanding of language acquisition. Researchers have developed the modern language processing model which argues that three specific areas of the brain are used by foreign language learners. For example: Many scientific studies show that the brain regions that participate in foreign languages before and after the age of 12 are different. This research has proved that the critical learning period for children is the age of 12. After 12 we use a different area of our brain to learn languages and rely much more on deduction rather than understanding. This means that we have to use a different learning strategy. This is a more complex way of learning, however the brain is very flexible! We know that external stimuli can alter the brains functions to improve cognitive processes. In short, you can train your brain! This is why it's particularly important to choose an efficient learning method.



To learn a second language you have to use both different areas of your brain and also different types of memory; declarative and procedural. Memory is supported by different systems in the brain. We know that the areas of the brain which store declarative memories perform best when stimulated by emotions. The more emotion you feel the more you will remember the information linked to that emotion. First learning something new will work best if you find the lesson interesting and if you connect with the way it is presented. For procedural memory to function, a process needs to be repeated. The brain stores English grammatical rules long term as procedural memory through repetition. So that's why we say practice makes perfect!

Many years of research by language specialists illustrated the positive impact of motivation and satisfaction with results as well as the negative influence of anxiety on second language acquisition. This is another field of study which taught us a great deal about how we learn a second language before recent advances in neuroscience could explain the cognitive processes at work.

If you are interested in what you are learning, and it stimulates your curiosity and triggers emotions. If you feel at ease and comfortable. If you are motivated and know when you have improved. If you are able to practice and repeat the structures you are learning and your objectives are clear. If you are enjoying your lessons and you have the satisfaction of knowing when you are progressed, then you know that you are optimizing your learning and you have chosen the right method!

(Sources: Declarative vs. Procedural Memory: Roles in Second Language Acquisition Laleh Fakhraee Faruji Learning a Foreign Language in Adulthood using Principles of Neuroscience Sang Bum Honga, Junyong Parka, Youngho Moonb, Matthew Louis Grandmasonb, Devin Paul Nowroskib, Minho Moona, Second Language Learning Theories: Fourth Edition De Rosamond Mitchell, Florence Myles, Emma Marsden.)*

Activity Three: Watch the video and answer the comprehension questions.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7jxKPSRrEr4
"How do we keep skills and learning relevant in a changing world of work?"

Video comprehension:

1. Where does Marc live?
2. How did Haten train?
3. Does Gulin feel that she is qualified for her job?
4. Why was Regina hired?
5. What does Caroline mean by "jack of all trades"?
6. Did Daniela study the same field that she now works in?
7. What does Marc think about training opportunities?
8. What is Sabino's next project?
9. What is Marc's advice?



Activity Four: Modal verbs review…

can - can't – must – mustn't – may – might – could – couldn't – would – wouldn't – have to – don't have to – should – shouldn't

We can use modal verbs of probability to say if something is possible, impossible or certain:

- Everything could change tomorrow
- He can't be a brain surgeon, he's too young
- This must be his English book – his name is written in it.

We also use modals to talk about ability, permission, obligations and advice, and for polite offers and requests:

Permission/Prohibition:



- Can you give me some advice about learning?
- You may not leave the English class.
- You can't leave the house after 9pm.

Ability/Inability:

- I can't speak French
- I can speak English
- We could not go out during the confinement (NB: can -> could for past tense)

Obligations and advice:



- You have to work from home
- You mustn't leave your home unless it's absolutely necessary
- You should prepare the lesson in advance

Polite offers and requests:

- Would you like some help with your English homework ?
- I would like to learn new skills for the future
- Could I apply for a training course to help me with my future career?

Activity Five: Modal verbs: A changing world: Choose the correct meaning of the modal verbs in the following sentences:

1. My job can't be done remotely, I'm a farmer! - impossibility / prohibition
2. We can't know for sure what the future holds - inability / prohibition
3. You can't wear pyjamas in the office! - impossibility / prohibition
4. These days, you can interview candidates over video chat - ability / possibility
5. I'm not sure if my job will exist in the future – I could be replaced by a machine
   - ability / possibility
6. May I use your computer? - possibility / permission
7. I'm busy tomorrow but I may be able to see you on Thursday - possibility / permission
8. I think learning to program might be useful for my career - possibility / permission
9. Congratulations on your new job, you must be really happy! - certainty / obligation
10. We must all be prepared for change - certainty / obligation

Activity Six: Idioms about change:

to change your mind

- make a decision or form an opinion that's different to what you thought before

I was going to train as a teacher, but I've changed my mind, I want to be a software developer instead

a change of scene

- moving to a different environment or different surroundings

I'm tired of this little town, I need a change of scene – I'm going to move to New York!

like a breath of fresh air



- someone or something with new ideas or behavior

Updating our system has been like a breath of fresh air

shake things up

- to change things a lot, especially to make improvements

It's important to shake up your day-to-day routine, or you may end up stuck in a rut

a fresh start

- start something again

Let's put the problems behind us and make a fresh start.

Activity Seven: Fill the gaps in the sentences below:

1. She's going to make _____ and re-train as an engineer
2. Tim was bored of working for his father's company. He wanted _____ so he applied for a job in Sydney
3. I thought I would find it difficult to learn new things, but I have _____ and now I love it.
4. Technological changes will _____ many industries
5. After working for our old boss for 20 years, the new boss seems _____
6. Nurses_____ be more appreciated after the pandemic is over.
7. Local communities _____decide to work together and be more self supporting after this experience.
8. We_____find new ways to live our lives and simplify them.
9. This situation _____show how the world _____continue without awareness about the environment and over-population.
10. Citizens _____must make a stand if they want to be heard.
11. Self-reliance_____become a new trend.

Activity Eight: **Idioms and Proverbs**

An idiom is a phrase with a meaning that cannot be understood from the meanings of its individual words.A proverb is a short and popular saying that gives advice about how people should behave or that expresses a belief that is commonly thought to be true.



Identify the proverbs and idioms in the following text:

Evolving in a Changing World

As the world goes faster and faster and we are surrounded more and more with new technology and new information, humans are having to catch up with these shifts of pace. People of all generations now are expected to know certain things that are considered basics. Sending emails, navigating social media, searching the web for information...for my grandparents it was enough to make their heads spin! They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks, but I don't think that's necessarily true.

Most of what's difficult about change is how we react to it. If our attitude towards our ever-evolving world is to be fearful or close-minded, then it's easy to lose touch and fall behind. It's better to have an outlook that says, 'Out with the old, in with the new'. In this way, we can be accepting and excited about change. Looking at evolution in the world with a fresh perspective can actually help train your brain to see the positive more often. All it takes is a change of heart. Sometimes, you just have to face the music. Change is going to happen no matter what. But if you can find ways to be open to it, they say to long for everything is sorrow but to accept everything is joy.

Activity Nine: **Role Plays:** Use modal verbs to give help and advice in the following situations:

1. Your father wants to create a social media page to get in touch with some friends from his youth. He's not sure he understands how it all works. Help him to create his page with what is needed to connect with people he may know.

2. Your teenage child wants you to film them making a TikTok, but you have no idea what the app is. You ask them about how it works and why people post there.

3. Your boss is offering a new training program on the Microsoft Project Gallery, including Powerpoint, Excel, etc. She explains the importance of being fluent in these programs and answers your questions about how you can use them at work.

4. You want to share a video with your mom on Youtube, explain to her how she can find it and how she can send you her thoughts without having to call you on the phone.

Activity Ten: **Just for fun LISTEN AND ENJOY! …** Written so long ago but still true today!
Bob Dylan The Times They Are A Changin' 1964
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e7qQ6_RV4VQ

