

## Teaching ideas / tips

1. It is a FORMAL exam – don't spend time on colloquialisms. They don't need to know how to have a chat based on informal phrasal verbs – this doesn't usually ever come up in the exam.
2. The register is ALWAYS neutral / formal for everything, speaking included. They need to be walking semi-intellectuals.
3. The speaking exam topics are limited to non-controversial areas, so don't waste time discussing politics, racism, abortion etc, especially in year 2. They need to be able to discuss ABSTRACT concepts within neutral topic areas such as 'morality' (!) in today's society.
4. They need vocabulary work – from articles, listening tapes scripts, news programmes...they need to WRITE IT DOWN all the time and retrieve it for productive use.
5. Collocations posters – forcing them to use the language as they can see it in front of them
6. Use speaking as an opportunity to experiment with NEW expressions that you push them to use – correct them often and thoroughly and don't let them ramble on (which they can...)
7. Writing – probably the most useful correction is REFORMULATION, different ways to say the same thing
8. Don't worry about grammar – do it for homework or read up on it before the lesson so you know what to expect
9. Give a wordle of the answers to gap fill exercise to remember beforehand then put up half way through doing the exercise
10. Do a grid of word formation from an exercise and use online dictionaries to check also check limitations of words then do the exercise
11. Pasapalabra - they make the questions
12. Blockbusters – they make the vocab questions
13. Vocab test – translate 1 each from I2 into I1 round the class
14. Reading – give questions, find answers and write 3 wrong alternatives – 2 wrong alternatives cos they can't cope. Alternative is to give the question and the answer and to write the wrong alternatives – they find it very difficult
15. Sentences transformation cards with answers written on the back and they test each other
16. Translation of song lyrics
17. Class sets of dominoes prepared by students
18. Record selves doing 2 minutes and transcribe parts of it
19. Use wordle to start any activity
20. Writing mistakes
21. Grass skirts
22. Make gapped sentences together
23. Do sentence transformations backwards
24. Needs analysis – done various times throughout the year to develop student autonomy