ONSIMPRESSIONSIMP ONSIMPRESSION TEACHER'S NOTES

YOU CHOOSE!

Age: Teenager/Adult Level: Intermediate (B1)

Time: 45 minutes

Activity: In this lesson, students will:

- » ask and answer some either/or questions
- » create a questionnaire for their classmate
- » make some one-minute speeches

Language focus: speaking about preferences; using both,

either/or, neither/nor

Materials: one copy of each worksheet per student

PROCEDURE

1. Write 'cats or dogs' on the board and ask the students which they prefer. Hand out the worksheet. Focus students' attention on the three options (both cats and dogs, either cats or dogs, neither cats nor dogs) and give them 30 seconds to explain their answer to the person sitting next to them. When they have finished conduct brief whole class feedback.

LANGUAGE TIP: With the vocabulary here, you could teach the idiom it's raining cats and dogs. Many teachers only start teaching idioms at an upper intermediate level. However, there is no reason not to introduce idioms using basic vocabulary to lower level students, as they often find them interesting and quirky, and students feel as if they are learning authentic English.

- Tell students they are going to complete the quiz in Activity

 which involves making choices. Put them into pairs and
 ask them to take the quiz, providing explanations for their
 answers. If you do not have a lot of time you can alternate
 questions between students.
- 3. Next, change pairs and ask the students to report their original partner's answers to their new partner. When they have finished reporting the answers, ask each pair if they can think of another option for each answer. Write any new vocabulary that comes up on the board, eliciting spelling and pronunciation where necessary.
- 4. In their new pairs, ask the students to create five more 'either/or' questions to ask the other students. Monitor while they are doing this and offer help or corrections.
- When they have completed their questions, put students back into their original pairs and get them to put their new questions to their original partner.



neither = /ni:ðər/

6. Ask students to now look at the two language focus exercises in Activity 2. Go through the rules with them and then give them time to complete the exercises in pairs. Check the answers as a class.

LANGUAGE TIP: Providing practice of pronunciation can help boost students' confidence when speaking or giving presentations. Here you can highlight and drill the difference between the American and British pronunciation of either and neither (both of which are correct).

BrE: either = /aiða/ neither = /naiða/

- 7. Students now turn to Activity 3. Tell them that they need to prepare two short speeches about the questions they have been discussing, justifying why they made their choices. Give the students five or six minutes to prepare their speeches. Monitor and offer tips and correction while they are doing this. Focus their attention on the fixed phrases that they can use in their speeches.
- 8. Let students give their mini-presentations in small groups and allow time for peer-to-peer feedback. Monitor and take notes of any good or bad use of language, paying close attention to pronunciation and sentence stress. When students have finished, write any mistakes / examples of good language use on the board and perform whole class feedback.

Key

Activity 1:

students' own answers

AmE: either = /i:ðər/

Activity 2:

Exercise A

- 1. neither... nor
- 2. either
- 3. Either... or
- 4. both
- 5. Neither

Exercise B

- 1. both
- 2. either... or
- 3. neither
- 4. both
- 5. either
- 6. both7. either
- 8. neither
- b. Heither
- 9. either... or
- 10. either
- 11. either... or
- 12. both
- 13. neither... nor
- 14. both

Activity 3: students' own answers

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YOU CHOOSE!

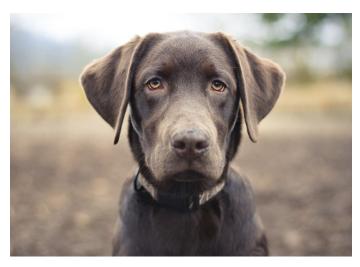
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Answer the question below and explain your choice to your partner.

Are you a cat or a dog person?

- a. I love both.
- b. If I had to choose either cats or dogs, I would choose _____
- c. Neither! I like neither cats nor dogs.





Activity 1: Choices quiz

- 1. Which of these adjectives best describes you?
- a) adventurous
- b) sensitive
- 2. What kind of food do you prefer?
- a) savoury
- b) sweet
- 3. Where would you prefer to spend a holiday?
- a) on the beach
- b) in the mountains
- 4. Which type of music would you take to a desert island?
- a) dance
- b) classical
- 5. Where do you like to hang out?
- a) shopping mall
- b) night club
- 6. What is most important to you?
- a) friends
- b) family

- 7. How do you prefer to communicate?
- a) by phone
- b) by email
- 8. Which sport do you prefer watching?
- a) football
- b) tennis
- 9. Which film genre do you prefer?
- a) horror
- b) romance
- 10. Which characteristic do you think is most important?
- a) honesty
- b) a sense of humour

Please write five	more questions of	vour own for	vour nartner
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- 1. ______
- 4. _____

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Activity 2: Language focus: both, either, neither

Exercise A Fill in the missing words using both, either, eitheror, neither, neithernor.
1Y
Means: not one thing or another thing Used as a negative word; the opposite of both
2
Means: one of two; this one OR the other one Used as a positive word
3 Y
Means: one thing or another thing; not both Used positively to express a choice between two things
4
Means: two; this one AND the other one Used as a positive word
5
Means: not one and not the other Used as a negative word
Exercise B Fill in the gaps using both, either, eitheror, neither, neithernor.
1. A. Do you want ice cream or apple pie? B. Can I have, please?
2. I'm sorry. There isn't enough to go round. You can only have ice cream pie.
3. Tony wasn't in class today and was Caroline.
4. How embarrassing! We're wearing the same dress.
5. Mariah Carey or Whitney Houston? I don't like of them!
6. I found two nice pairs of shoes in the sale today so I bought of them.
7. Both streets go to the station. You can take
8. A. Are you a Leo or a Virgo? B I'm a Pisces.
9. So who is bringing a tent, you Michael?
10. A. What shall we have for lunch, pasta or rice? B will do. I really don't mind.
11 you do what your mother tells you you go to your room!
12. What a disaster! I failed my maths and my French test.
13. I like Ana Sergio. They're both snobs and obsessed with money.
14. I like pizza and pasta but my favourite Italian food is lasagne.

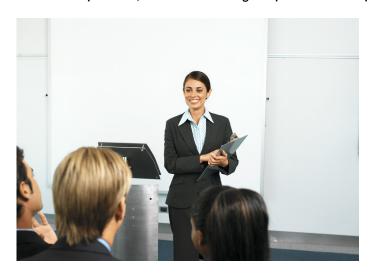
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Activity 3: Mini presentations

Choose two questions, either from the original quiz or from the questions you made, in which you had a clear preference.





You are going to prepare two one-minute speeches explaining your choices, trying to convince your group why you are correct. You will give your speech in front of your group and they will assess how you speak!

Before giving your speeches, share any advice you have for giving good presentations with the class. Use the categories in the box at the bottom of the page to help you.

Try to use the following phrases in your speech:

»	is better than	because			
»	I much preferto	because			
»	Given the choice between	and	, I'd choose	because	
»	The best thing about	compared to	is		

Watch the speeches from the other members of your group and use the box below to help score them, before offering feedback.

Name:						
	Speech 1			Speech 2		
Pace	1	2	3	1	2	3
Volume	1	2	3	1	2	3
Posture	1	2	3	1	2	3
Eye contact	1	2	3	1	2	3
Persuasion	1	2	3	1	2	3
Rhythm	1	2	3	1	2	3
Interest	1	2	3	1	2	3