

# CELEBRATIONS

onestopenglish

## Review of the year

Teacher's notes

Age: Teenagers/Adults

Level: Elementary (A1)

Time: 30 minutes



**Activity:** In this lesson, students will:

1. talk about global events from the past year;
2. talk about their best and worst things from the last year;
3. make resolutions for the coming year using 'to be + going to'.


**Language focus:** past simple; future simple

**Preparation:** prepare a slideshow of some images of major world events from the previous year

**Materials:** one copy of the worksheet per student

### Procedure

1. Play a slideshow or beam images of world events from the previous year you have prepared from a projector and show these to your students, asking them to identify each of the events. Then, write the year on the board and ask your students to work in pairs and discuss other important world events they remember from the past year. Ask your class to discuss what they know about each event and conduct a whole class discussion, highlighting any new vocabulary which comes up.

 **TECH TIP:** Before class, find and save the images that you want to show in class, as this will save you time in your lesson. You could also use a good image sharing site like [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com).

2. Tell the students that they are going to review their favourite and least favourite things from the past year. Hand out the worksheet. Go through the categories as a class. Ask the students to work in pairs and try to think of two answers for each category. Monitor while they discuss their answers and ask them to use the prompts in the extension activity to expand on their answers.
3. When they have finished, ask them to present their answers to the class. Write all of the answers on the board and tell the students they should vote for the top two in each category. At this stage, encourage

students to try to justify their answers or criticize other answers, as the class focus should be on fluency rather than accuracy.

4. Ask your students to work in pairs again and brainstorm any other categories that they think should be included in the review of the year. When they have finished, ask them to present their ideas to the class and follow the same voting procedure as before.
5. Tell students that to finish the class they are going to look forward to next year. If possible, elicit which structure is used to talk about future plans. If no-one knows, draw students' attention to the Language Focus section in Exercise 2. Explain the grammar rules and go through the examples. Ask students to write three more sentences for themselves and then read them out to the class.



**LANGUAGE TIP:** When teaching this language point, it is a good idea to introduce the short form going + to = 'gonna'. Not only is it important for raising awareness of connected speech, but it will also improve students' listening skills. However, it is important to make the distinction between when we make the contraction (before a verb) and when we don't (before a noun).

Click the link to show your students an excellent video by Jamie Keddie on 'gonna': [www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPD82krGV5w](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPD82krGV5w)

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### Exercise 1: Review of the year

It is the end of the year. What were the biggest events?

What were the best things and worst things that happened this year? Look at the categories below and write your choices for each one.

The best ...

Best app/new technology

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Best world event

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Best celebrity

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... and worst ...

Worst app/new technology

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Worst world event

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Worst celebrity

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... of the year

Best movie

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Best song/album/artists

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Best student/teacher

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Worst movie

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Worst song/album/artists

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Worst student/teacher

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Extension activity

- I liked... because...
- I enjoy... because...
- The best thing about... was...
- ... was most enjoyable because...
- I didn't like... because...
- I didn't enjoy... because...
- The worst thing about... was...
- ... was least enjoyable because...

### Notes

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### Exercise 2: New Year's resolutions

Language focus

We use 'to be + going to' to talk about future plans.

e.g.

This year I'm going to lose weight.

My brother is going to give up smoking.

My wife and I are going to start studying French.

Resolutions

What are you going to do over the next 12 months?? Complete the sentence below with your ideas:

Next year, I'm going to start \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm going to stop \_\_\_\_\_ .

I'm going to give up \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm going to take up \_\_\_\_\_ .

Next year, I'm going to visit \_\_\_\_\_ .

Write three sentences using 'to be + going to' for yourself about your plans for the coming year.

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