

Topics: Hobbies by Adrian Tennant

LEVEL: Pre-intermediate
AGE: Teenagers / Adults
TIME NEEDED: 90 minutes + project
LANGUAGE FOCUS: Abbreviations, understanding vocabulary in context, topic words

LEAD-IN

Ask students to look at the photos and match the hobbies in the box to the correct one. After a few minutes, put students in pairs and get them to check their answers together. Finally, check the answers as a class.

Key _____
 1. chess; 2. skiing; 3. model planes; 4. mountain biking;
 5. yoga; 6. bungee jumping

Put students into small groups and ask them to discuss the three questions, then open the discussion to the whole class.

READING: NOTICEBOARD MESSAGES

Ask students to read through the messages and match the photos from the previous exercise to the correct one (this should be fairly straightforward, as they have already matched the hobbies to the photos). Get them to check their answers together, before checking as a class.

Key a _____
 1. F; 2. E; 3. A; 4. D; 5. C; 6. B

Next, ask the students to answer the four comprehension questions. Again, get students to check their answers in pairs before checking as a class.

Key b _____
 1. Tony (A) and Adam (E); 2. The Outdoor Club (B);
 3. Darren (D); 4. Room 211 (next to the library)

WORKING WITH THE LANGUAGE

Start by asking the students to find and circle all the abbreviations in the messages on the noticeboard. Then, ask students to work in pairs to match the words on the right to the correct abbreviation on the left and discuss the meaning of each one.

Monitor and help where necessary before checking as a class.

Key a _____
 1. b; 2. d; 3. c; 4. a

Key b _____
 1. Or Nearest Offer; 2. post meridiem, i.e. afternoon;
 3. Extra Large; 4. Wednesday

WORKING WITH VOCABULARY

Focus 1: Meaning

Ask students to look back at the texts and find words that match the definitions. Encourage them to work in pairs and discuss their ideas as they look at the texts. Monitor and help where necessary. If students are getting stuck suggest that they look at the next activity to see if this helps them. Check the answers as a class.

Key _____
 1. instruction(s); 2. join; 3. fit; 4. steal (stolen); 5. contact;
 6. tournament

Focus 2: Topic-related words

Next, ask students to match the hobbies in the box to the correct list of equipment. Get them to check their answers in pairs before checking as a class. At this stage, you can discuss the different items of equipment and what each one is.

Key _____
 1. kayaking; 2. chess; 3. mountain biking; 4. yoga;
 5. model planes

LISTENING

Ask students to listen to someone describing the hobby they do. After playing the recording get students to discuss their ideas in pairs. Play the recording again, if necessary. Check the answers as a class.

Key _____
 Yoga - notice C

Transcript:

I started going two years ago. At the start, I went because of my girlfriend but when our relationship ended I continued going. It looks very easy but it isn't. Now I feel really healthy and fit and I'm also much more relaxed than I used to be. It's great fun and I love it!

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SPEAKING

Put students in small groups and ask them to discuss the questions together. Afterwards, ask a few groups to report back on their discussion. You might want to open this out to the whole class.

PROJECT

Ask students to carry out the project for homework and ask for volunteers to give their presentations in the next lesson.

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LEAD-IN

a. Look at the pictures. Match the hobbies in the box to the correct pictures. Be careful! There are three extra hobbies.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------|
| bungee jumping | chess | gymnastics |
| kayaking | model planes | skiing |
| mountain biking | mountain climbing | yoga |

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



b. Discuss the questions below.

1. What are your hobbies?
2. How long have you been doing it / them?
3. Why do you enjoy doing it / them?

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WORKING WITH THE LANGUAGE

a. Match the abbreviations from the notices in the left-hand column to what they represent in the right-hand column.

- | | |
|--------|-----------------|
| 1. ONO | a. day |
| 2. pm | b. price / cost |
| 3. XL | c. size |
| 4. Wed | d. time |

b. Do you know the exact meaning of the abbreviations?

WORKING WITH THE VOCABULARY

Focus 1: Meaning

Find words and phrases from the messages on the noticeboard that match the definitions below. Be careful! One of the words is in a different form.

- an explanation of how to do or use something
- to become a member of an organisation, club or group
- healthy, strong and able to do physical exercise
- to take something that belongs to someone else
- communicate with someone by email or phone
- a series of games in which the winner of each game plays in the next game until there is only one player or team left

Focus 2: Topic-related words

Match the hobbies to the equipment used in the hobby.

chess	kayaking	model planes
mountain	biking	yoga

- dry bag, float bag and paddles
- digital game clock, board and pieces
- helmet, puncture repair kit and weatherproof jacket
- a mat and exercise ball
- kit, battery and radio control system

LISTENING

Listen to someone describing a hobby they do. Which of the messages from the noticeboard do you think they would be interested in and why?

SPEAKING

Discuss the questions below in groups.

- Look again at the messages on the noticeboard. Which of the messages would you reply to or be interested in? Why?
- If you could do any hobby in the world, what would it be and why would you like to do it?
- Do you know anybody who has an unusual hobby? What is it?

PROJECT

Do you have a hobby? What is it? Prepare a short presentation about it.