

Access English Centre
Immigrant Centre Manitoba
Conversation Skill 5 "Giving Advice" Workout Activity
(Adapted from: Lantern Fish)
Intermediate Level (60 minutes)

Facilitator Note: This activity can be used as an energizer for the participants to warm up and have fun as well. In groups of three members, one person must give advice by using the prompt "I think you should ...". The aim of this activity is for participants to learn how to give advice when it is requested.

Materials: Participants need: pen/pencil, and worksheet Facilitator needs: Whiteboard / a flip chart, and whiteboard markers to write down ideas on how to give advice.	
5 min	<p>Procedure:</p> <p><i>1. Introduce the Activity</i></p> <p>1) Brainstorm as a whole group. Ask the participants if in the past people have consulted them about personal problems and what kind of advice they gave.</p>
15 min	<p>2) Introduce and explain that this activity will teach them how to give advice properly.</p> <p>3) Cite a sample situation and ask them how they would answer. <i>"My mother-in-law is coming to visit us. What should I do?"</i></p> <p>4) <i>Say that the polite response is to start with the phrase "I think you should... or, If I were you, I would..."</i></p> <p>Your answer can be <i>"I think you should clean your house and stock enough groceries in the fridge." OR "If I were you I would clean my house and stock enough groceries in the fridge."</i></p>
5 min	<p>5) Give another situation and ask for suggestions. <i>"My friend always borrows money from me but seldom returns it. What should I do?"</i></p> <p>You can say <i>"I think you should ask your friend to first return the money he borrowed from you. And then, if I were you, I will not lend him any more money."</i></p>
15 min	<p>6) Print out the sample situation. Call on one pair to read the situation and the other to give advice using the suggested format. Have the group share their comments on the advice.</p> <p>Partner A: <i>"I am going to go out of town this weekend. What should I take with me?"</i> Partner B: <i>"I think you should pack your clothes and personal items such as your toothbrush." "If I were you, I would bring a book to read."</i></p>
15 min	<p>Pair Work: - Pair up the participants and distribute the worksheets, 1 to each pair. Have them choose three situations and discuss what advice they would give. Allot 10-15 minutes for this. At the end of 15 minutes, call on each pair to read the situations they picked and their advice.</p>

Worksheet on Giving Advice

Work with a partner and discuss your advice for the situation.

<p>I'm always sick. What should I do?</p>	<p>My friend is overweight. What should she do?</p>	<p>My brother drinks two liters of soda every night. What should he do?</p>	<p>I often get a stomach ache after a meal. What should I do?</p>
<p>I think you should ...</p> <p><i>Or If I were you, I would ...</i></p>	<p>I think she should ...</p>	<p>I think he should ...</p>	<p>I think you should...</p> <p>Or If I were you, I would...</p>
<p>My boy friend comes in late for his class every day. What should I do?</p>	<p>My roommate has the flu. What should she do?</p>	<p>My neighbor always plays loud music in the evening. What should I do?</p>	<p>My friend often borrows money from me but never pays me. What should I do?</p>
<p>I think you should ...</p> <p>Or If I were you, I would...</p>	<p>I think she should ...</p>	<p>I think you should ...</p> <p>Or If I were you, I would...</p>	<p>I think you should ...</p> <p>Or If I were you, I would...</p>
<p>My girl friend always asks me to buy her expensive handbags. What should I do?</p>	<p>I am going to have a job interview tomorrow. What should I do?</p>	<p>Tomorrow is my first day at work. What should I do?</p>	<p>My colleague at work always helps me. How can I thank her?</p>
<p>I think you should</p> <p>Or If I were you, I would...</p>	<p>I think you should</p> <p>Or If I were you, I would...</p>	<p>I think you should</p> <p>Or If I were you, I would...</p>	<p>I think you should</p> <p>Or If I were you, I would ...</p>

