



**Access English Centre
Immigrant Centre Manitoba
Activity Plan - Beginner
Daily Conversation Skills # 1
How Was Your Weekend?**



90 minutes

Objective/Goal:

In this activity, participants work together to learn how to engage in small talk regarding their weekend activities with family and friends. Use the frame sentence as a guide for participants to practice with their partners.

Materials:

Participants need: a worksheet of new words and picture, a question and answer sheet.

Facilitator needs:

- whiteboard
- whiteboard markers

Procedure: Warm-up 15 min
Work-out 60 min
Cool-down 15 min

Procedure: Pre-teach the following phrases and new words:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. cook supper | 2. walk my dog | 3. watch T.V. |
| 4. phone my son | 5. listen to music | 6. type my resume |
| 7. clean the house | 8. wash the dishes | 9. call my friends |
| 10. visit my daughter | 11. play with my children | 12. water my plants |

Ask the participants individually: **How was your weekend? What did you do?** Write their answers on the board.

Lead the group to read aloud the new phrases and short sentences a few times. Define new words as needed.

Use a calendar to show the date today and the previous weekend to help explain the concept of past tense. Show how to change regular verbs to indicate an action which took place any time before now.

Regular verb + ed such as cook - cooked; clean - cleaned.

1. Warm-up Activity

Explain and model the activity with a few volunteer participants. Have the group follow the model and practice the short dialogue below a few times.

Susan: Halima, How was your weekend?

Halima: *It was great! How was your weekend, Susan?*

Susan: It was very good.

Halima: *What did you do on your weekend, Susan?*

Susan: I stayed home and cleaned my house. It was cold out.

2. Work-out Activity :

Activity 1 - Whole class Practice Drill #1: Have the participants repeat the verbal phrases, vocabulary and the sentences with you a few times by holding up the pictures and words and then asking the whole group to repeat the prompts.

A: How was your weekend?

B: *It was very good.*

A: What did you do?

B: *I watched a movie on T.V.*

Activity 2 - Pair work: Matching the phrases with the pictures. Before the class starts, pre-cut the worksheet and separate the pictures from the words. Divide the group into pairs and ask them to work with their partner to match the words and phrases with the pictures.

Activity 3 - Whole class Practice Drill #2: After the matching activity, call on participants to answer your questions: "**How was your weekend? What did you do?**" Alternate between asking the whole group, and individual participants.

Cut the worksheet pictures (12) and place them in a pile. Choose a picture and ask the group "How was your weekend?" The participants will then say "*It was good, very good, excellent, wonderful, not so good, bad, or terrible*". Then ask them "What did you do?" Show the picture so that they will answer according to the picture you are holding. For example:
I stayed home, and cleaned my house.

I visited my friends. I phoned my son.

Call on participants one at a time and have the whole group repeat the answer.

Remind the participants that they need to add **-ed** at the end of the verb when they talk about a past action.

Partner Practice Drill: Give each pair of participants a set of the words and pictures and have them practice the frame sentences such as:

A: How was your weekend?"

B: *It was very good.*

A: What did you do?

B: *I played with my children.*

Activity 4 - Question and Answer - Have the participants walk around and ask the two questions to other participants to complete the Q and A worksheet. In response, they should use the verbal phrases that they learned.

3. Cool Down

Play the memory game with the whole group by saying one verbal phrase and then calling on a volunteer to use the word in a sentence. Then have the group repeat the sentence aloud.

Q and A Worksheet: "What did you do this weekend?"





Verbal Phrases

cook supper	walk my dog
watch TV	phone my son
listen to music	type my resume
clean the bathtub	wash the dishes
call my friends	visit my daughter
play with my children	water my plants