

Energy 4 Unit 7 What if? A different life

Teacher's Notes

Time	30–40 minutes
Interaction	Individual and whole class mingling activity (or small groups of, for example, 4–6 if you have a large class)
Preparation	Photocopy worksheet
Aims	To give practice of third conditional to describe how students' lives would have been different if certain things had/hadn't happened

Procedure

- Tell students they are going to look at how their lives might have been different if certain events had been different.
- Give an example of an event that shaped your life and the consequence it had:

For example, event = my parents met at work
consequence = they got married and I was born

Elicit third conditional structure by asking what would have been different if, for example, my parents hadn't met at work?
= *If my parents hadn't worked at the same place they wouldn't have met and I wouldn't have been born.*

- Give out worksheet and elicit or give some examples of life changing events, for example, where born, house moves, starting schools, meeting best friend/ boy/ girlfriend, travelling, starting a hobby, winning competitions. Tell students they should be willing to talk about the events they list, as they will play a guessing game later.
- Monitor and assist with unknown vocabulary or problems using third conditional structure. Allow 10–5 minutes for students to complete their worksheets.
- Demonstrate mingling or group activity. Tell students they have to guess what the other students' life changing events were. They have to work this out from how things would have been different.
- Give an example about you. You can use your original example, then give another example, for example, *I wouldn't have been born if this hadn't happened (if my parents hadn't met) or I wouldn't have been your English teacher (if I had studied Science at university)*. Students try to guess what the 'if x had/hadn't happened' is.
- Set time limit of 10 or 15 minutes to complete the mingling activity. The aim is to guess as many 'what ifs' as possible. Monitor and note any language problems to deal with in a correction slot after the activity.
- Round-up: correct errors if appropriate. Elicit some of the 'what ifs' the students discovered, for example, *Anna wouldn't have learned to play the piano if her grandmother hadn't taught her to do this.*

Energy 4 Unit 7 What if? A different life

Write down some important events in your life. Your teacher will give you some examples of things to write about.

Now think about how your life might have been different if these events hadn't happened. Make notes in the second column.

Important event and what effect it had on my life	What would have been different?
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	