

Energy 4 Unit 8 How polite are you?

Teacher's Notes

Time	30–35 minutes
Interaction	Pair work
Preparation	Photocopy worksheets A and B
Aim	To give practice of indirect question forms

Procedure

- Tell students they are going to 'translate' some direct questions into 'polite' questions, otherwise known as indirect questions. Elicit and write up structures used to do this, for example,

I wonder (if) ... *Do you know ... ?*
Could you tell me ... ? *Can you remember ... ?*

- Give a couple of examples of 'translated' direct questions, eliciting the indirect forms, for example,

Is that seat free? = Could you tell me if that seat is free?
Why isn't John here? = Do you know why John isn't here?

You might find it helpful to recap on *when/why* we use polite questions, for example, when asking strangers for information (the time, directions) or asking people we know questions which may be considered rude or nosy if not asked indirectly (why is X late/ not here).

- Put students into pairs and give out worksheet A to half of the pairs and worksheet B to the other half of the pairs. Give them about 10–15 minutes to 'translate' the questions into polite questions. Tell students that they should then think of 3 direct questions of their own that they want to ask and to translate them.
- Monitor and note or correct any language problems as appropriate.
- Regroup students so that they are in pairs of 1 student A and 1 student B. Demonstrate the guessing game. Student A reads the polite question for the first question. Student B has to guess the direct question. Students get a point for each completely correct guess. Student B then reads one polite question and student A guesses the direct question. Students take turns throughout the game.
- Allow about 10 minutes for students to play the game. Monitor and note any problems.
- Round-up: do a short correction slot. Ask students to say which they thought were the best or most interesting questions and why.

Energy 4 Unit 8 Student A

How polite are you?

Work with a partner and rewrite the questions as polite (indirect) questions. Use these structures:

I wonder (if) ... *Do you know ... ?*
Could you tell me ... ? *Can you remember ... ?*

Then write three questions of your own and write them as polite questions.

Direct question	Indirect question
1 How much do people who work in supermarkets get paid?	
2 I love her shoes. Where did she get them?	
3 Is Sasha having a party this weekend?	
4 Someone called me on my mobile but didn't leave a message. Who was it?	
5 What time's the next train to London?	
6 What will the homework be?	
7 Why is that man waving at me?	
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Energy 4 Unit 8 Student B

How polite are you?

Work with a partner and rewrite the questions as polite (indirect) questions. Use these structures:

I wonder (if) ... *Do you know ... ?*
Could you tell me ... ? *Can you remember ... ?*

Then write three questions of your own and write them as polite questions.

Direct question	Indirect question
1 This song is great. Who's it by?	
2 What is that woman doing?	
3 Who's playing at the school concert this weekend?	
4 What will the weather be like tomorrow?	
5 I need a part-time job. Do they need new staff at the Italian restaurant?	
6 What's the time?	
7 Who's that girl with Tom?	
8	
9	
10	