

FILM ENGLISH

The Adventures of a Cardboard Box

Language level: Intermediate(B1)- Upper-intermediate(B2.1)

Learner type: All ages

Time: 90 minutes

Activity: Activities to encourage divergent and critical thinking,

Topic: Creativity and divergent thinking

Language: To + infinitive, second conditional

Materials: Short film and TV advert



Overview

This lesson plan is designed around a short film called *The Adventures of a Cardboard Box* in which a small boy finds myriad of uses for a cardboard box and the theme of critical thinking (reasonable reflective thinking focused on deciding what to believe or do) and divergent thinking (thinking to generate many different ideas about a topic in a short period of time).

Step 1

As a warmer show the photo of a paper clip below and ask your students to come up with as many uses of a paper clip as they can in 3 minutes.



Let them work individually and then after 3 minutes they should pair up and compare their answers. Get feedback from the whole class.

Step 2

Show your students this photo of a cardboard box.



Ask them to work in pairs and to come up with as many uses of a cardboard box that a child might think of as they can in 3 minutes. After 3 minutes they should work in small groups and compare their answers. Get feedback from the whole class and ask students which are the most creative and inventive uses.

Step 3

Tell your students they are going to watch a short film called *The Adventures of a Cardboard Box* in which a young boy befriends a cardboard box and comes up with a lot of uses for it. Students should watch the film, note down the different uses of the cardboard box and compare them with their own answers.

Link: <http://vimeo.com/25239728>

Step 4

Write *divergent thinking* on the board and ask students what it means. Ask them if they think the little boy in the film was a good divergent thinker. Can they think of other examples of divergent thinking?

Step 5

Write *critical thinking* on the board and ask students what it means. Tell your students they are going to see an example of critical thinking involving another young boy. Show them the video below until 14 seconds and then pause. Ask them the following questions:

What's the boy doing?

How does he feel?

What does he want

What can he do to get what he wants?

Your students will probably realise that he wants a brother or sister to play football with. Ask your students what he could do to get what he wants. Tell them to work in pairs and to come up with ways he can persuade his parents to have another child. Get feedback from your students.

Show the rest of the video and ask what they think of the young boy's actions.

Link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=befdapE_zfE&w