

Emergent Syllabus

sample simulation: haircut



Overview

Use this plan to prepare and do a practical simulation in class. This plan guides the teacher and the student for the activity; however, the materials or content will come from the activity itself. The teacher and student can use phrasebooks and websites to find useful vocabulary/phrases and real/realistic background information.

Task Description

Consider a task that you may need to do in the near future. For example, you need to get your haircut; decide what haircut/style you would like and ask for the haircut at the barber's, hairdressers or hair stylists.

Initial Task

Choose a hair style from these sites...

- <http://www.thehairstyler.com>
- <http://www.hair-styles.net>

Simulation Activity (in-class)

Prepare the phrases and words you will need for this simulation. Then practice or "role-play" the situation in-class. Consider these questions or mini dialogues ...

- Customer
 - Saying hello
 - Saying what you want, considering the following...
 - Front / fringes (bangs)
 - Back
 - Sides
 - Around ears
 - Length
 - Wavy / frizzy / straight
 - Colour rinse / dying
 - Asking the price
 - Paying
 - Saying thank you and good bye
- Hairdresser/barber
 - Saying hello
 - Asking what kind of cut
 - Asking which side the parting is on
 - Saying thank you and good bye

The following resources may be useful...

- www.smartphrase.com
- Google Translator
- Phrasebooks: paper-based (physical) or iPhone app

Taking it Further

The simulation can be extended in class to include more complex situations.

- the student has to wait too long and is going to be late for another appointment
- the haircut is not right – it's not what the student wanted

Discussing the topic

A more general conversation about the topic will help to reuse the new words and phrases. Discuss what you like/dislike about going to get your haircut. Consider the following questions...

- Do you always go to the same hairdresser? Why?
- What do you do while waiting and while getting your hair cut (read the newspaper, talk with hairdresser)?
- How often do you go?
- Do you always get the same haircut?

Visit <http://www.avatarlanguages.com/teaching/guide.php> for further resources.

