



## Homework Policy

Homework is set everyday and should be around an hour for each student.

The idea of homework is not to create marking for the teacher but rather to help 'set-up' activities for the following day. Homework does not have to take the form of photocopied exercises. It can be an 'open ended' activity where any work produced is valid and does not need assessment. Ideas that teachers have used successfully in the past include:

- Filling in outlines or blank maps of rooms/home towns/countries with features or vocabulary for discussion.
- Writing questions using the target language to ask their partner the next morning.
- Asking questions to their host family as a follow up or lead in to an activity that they have to report back on in class.
- Copying down examples of real English from billboards, posters, advertisements, road-signs and television adverts to comment on the next day.
- Writing information in tabular form that will form the basis of an oral task the following morning (descriptions of people/places/stories).
- Representing something as a graph/table/pie chart that they can then talk about the next day (free-time/feelings/events).
- Collecting photos/news-stories/regalia to prepare for the next lesson.
- Writing notes as preparation for a future presentation.

### Homework Tasks

#### 1. *Diary/Scrapbook*

Encourage Ss to keep a diary/scrapbook of their course and stay in Edinburgh and illustrate it with pictures, cinema tickets, drawings, etc. Take in the diaries at regular intervals. Don't mark them but do make comments so as to establish a written dialogue with individual Ss.

#### 2. *Find examples of ...*

Give Ss a worksheet with examples of target structure.

1. I've never eaten octopus.
2. I've drunk five cups of coffee today.
3. I've just seen Marek.
4. We've been here for 2 hours.
5. I haven't seen him this morning.
6. I've been studying English for 2 years.
7. They've already ....

For homework Ss must find examples of the target language on the worksheet. The examples must be the same as those on the worksheet in form, meaning and use. They can search the internet, newspapers, magazines or listen to TV or the radio.

#### 3. *Real life tasks*

Review appropriate functional language. Give Ss tasks (+ deadline for their completion).

E.g.

Find out the bus times and fares from one location to another.	Find out the details of the next classical concert in your area and the cheapest tickets.
Find out how you can use the internet in the library.	Go to a chemist's and find out the price of these items: a large tube of Colgate toothpaste, the cheapest bottle of herbal shampoo, the cost of developing a roll of colour print film.

#### 4. *Museum visit*

Ss go to the museum and find an exhibit that they really like. They make notes about it for a mini-presentation to be either written up or given in class.

#### 5. *Notes from the news*

Ss watch a news broadcast or visit a news site on the internet, making notes. The next day they discuss with a partner what they heard.

Updated and reviewed January 2017.

To be reviewed January 2018.