

Textations

160 exercises
for the art of txtng
including mini txt speak dictionary

Preview

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Introduction

Textations is a fun filler, warmer or ice breaker. It can and has been used equally well with adults and teenagers.

It can be used as a management, team building or ELT (English Language Teaching) resource.

The idea behind this book is that learners (Ls) learn how to produce more accurate & fluent text messages.

The situations on the following pages are designed as prompts for teachers or trainers (Ts), or indeed Ls, to dictate to an individual or class.

Ls then have to produce a message on their mobile device as quickly as possible.

This could be done as a competition with rewards going to those that are the fastest, the most accurate grammatically, the most appropriate, the funniest, the one with the most txt speak etc. The options are almost endless.

The options for writing a response though are not so endless, most phones allow 160 characters per message (hence there being 160 exercises here).

You could get the Ls to use a real mobile device or if such resources are scarce they could write their 'response' on paper. A template for this has been supplied on page 51.

It's possible you may wish to limit the number of characters Ls are expected to write, which could also make the exercise more difficult.

If resources are available and the Ls are prepared to send their messages for real, great, but be aware their network may charge them.

Alternatively Ls can write their message on paper, on a computer screen or how about photocopying their mobile device screens? Obviously this means they are not txt'ing, but it does mean Ls are still engaged with creating a message.

A little imagination can go a long way!

In part for this reason we have included a Continuous Professional Development sheet at the end of each unit for reflection and to help keep best practice at the forefront of your teaching.

Textations is a little fun with a serious objective of aiding Ls to be both quicker & more accurate when messaging. :)

Methodology

Learners (Ls) can either dictate the situation to each other (Ls 2 Ls) or it can be done teacher (Ts) to Ls.

Ls can correct each other's messages.

Ts can drill Ls with traditional drills or backward chaining.

Ls could role play or mime their message to their group/Ts who then has to guess the content or subject area of the message.

Ls could write their messages on paper, place these face down in a pile on the table. Then Ls take one (not their own!) & try to guess who wrote it.

Ls could re-write the message in full or re-write the message on 2 pages instead of 1.

Ls could write the message as a formal letter.

Ls could keep a record of their written messages for reflection and revision later.

Ts could physically photocopy the mobile device screens for later class work or for recording their progress over time.

Group discussion about the future of the mobile device (see Nokia's Morph presentation on bbc.co.uk).

A mini txt speak dictionary has been provided with lots of space for you to add any suggestions of your own.

If you have any great ideas for *Textations* please email them to us:
ideas@buckinghamenglish.com

So we can share best practice with others.

You will be given credit for any ideas we use in future editions.

Category 1 - Lateness.

Instruction: Text to say....

1.1
you will be 50 minutes late.

1.2
your colleague will be 40 minutes late.

1.3
the group will be 30 minutes late.

1.4
to your boss that she is late for a meeting.

1.5
to your boss that she is going to be late for a meeting.

Category 1 - Lateness.

Instruction: Text to say....

1.6

to your boss that she is late for a meeting & they can't wait any longer.

1.7

to a friend you are going to be late.

1.8

to the local guide at the museum to wait for your group to arrive.

1.9

hold a place in the entrance queue.

1.10

you need to know if you're too late.

CPD sheet

What worked well?

Why?

What could be improved?

Why?

What action is essential next time?

Why?

Symbols

A

@}--\-----,---	a rose
O:-)	angel
:-ll	angry
:-{	angry
:-z	angry face
:-O	appalled
>:-(annoyed

Abbreviations

A

a3	anytime, anywhere, anyplace
afaik	as far as I know
afk	away from keyboard
asap	as soon as possible
asl	age, sex, location
at	always tomorrow
atb	all the best
atk	at the keyboard
atm	at the moment
atw	at the weekend