Activities for Task-Based Learning

				Pag
0	Introduction to task-based learning		Brief history, key principles, research evidence for task-based learning, implementing task-based learning in your classroom.	
1	Micro-strategies and tools		Micro-strategies and tools for pre-task, on-task and post-task lesson phases.	1
2	Categorising	Levels of example activities	Activities include listing, grouping, sorting, ranking.	3
2a	Crime and punishment	B1+	From a list of crimes, students rank according to seriousness and decide on appropriate sentences.	3
2b	Domestic robot	A2-B2	Students brainstorm chores they dislike and prioritise which "apps" to install.	3
2c	Dangerous animals	A2-B2	Students rank animals according to how dangerous they are, check against fact files and review their choices.	3
2d	Me not me	All	Students categorise a topic according to a personal association.	4
2e	My neighbourhood	B1-C1	Students list and compare good and bad aspects of where they live.	4
2f	Speed flatmates	A2-C1	Students list characteristics of good / bad flatmates then do a "speed-dating" activity to find good matches.	4
3	Opinion gaps	Levels of example activities	Activities include comparing and evaluating opinions and experiences.	5
3a	How strict were your parents?	B1+	Students answer a questionnaire and decide who had the strictest parents.	5
3b	Polarities + Opinion gallery	A2-C2	Students form groups, brainstorm against a topic, then face off and debate.	5
3c	Counsellors / Dilemmas	A2+	Role play in which students write down a problem or dilemma, and talk to other students in role as counsellors.	5
3d	Tenancy agreement	A2+	Students decide on tenant and landlord needs, before pairing off to reach and record agreements.	5
3e	This house believes	B1-C2	Students choose a topic for debate, then prepare a case in groups. Examples: <i>Things are meant to be</i> v <i>pure chance</i> . The benefits of social media outweigh the disadvantages.	6

				Page
3f	FutureTech	A2-B2	Students discuss given examples of potential future technology and decide how likely, useful and dangerous they would be.	65
3g	Changes	A2-B2	Students find out who has changed the most over a period of time.	69
4	Problem-solving	Levels of example activities	Activities include identifying, analyzing and solving problems.	72
4a	Team problem- solving	A2+	Students listen to two versions of a story as a jigsaw listening, and collaborate in order to decide what action to take.	72
4b	Fake News!	B1+	Students read internet articles and decide which one is fake and which are (largely) true.	76
4c	Pictures and lies	A1-B1	Based on a theme, three students are given a picture, one a blank; the other students interview them in turn and determine who has the blank.	80
4d	Identity swap	A2+	Students answer questions as someone else in the class and then compare to see if they were right. (Variation: Profiles activity for new classes.)	83
5	Sharing personal experiences	Levels of example activities	Activities include opportunities for students to share and explore something personal to them.	85
5a	Nostalgia story	A2-B2	Students recall a happy period of their life and share / ask about it.	85
5b	Talking about a song	B1-B2+	Mini-presentation - Students explain the lyric to a song and why it's important to them.	88
5c	Where were you when?	A2+	Students recount where they were when important world events took place. Variation: draw your partner's timeline.	91
5d	My life in apps	B1+	Students share the apps on their smartphones that say something about their identity.	94
5e	Heroes	B1-C2	Mini-presentation. Students nominate someone they admire for an award e.g. "ultimate icon" or most important person in a particular field. Class votes.	97
5f	Happy accidents	B2+	Students talk about how their lives would be different in the light of counterfactuals. Begin with teacher's example.	99
5g	Folk remedies	A2+	Students talk about what they do to prevent / treat common ailments such as colds, flu, hiccups and report back.	102
5h	Cook-off	A2+	Competition in which students create recipes and vote for their favourites in a group, or the whole class.	104

				Page	
6	Creative (design) tasks	Levels of example activities	Activities include opportunities to combine the imagination with personal experience to create something.	107	
6a	Introducing the band	A2-B2	Interview role-play: Students take on the roles of members of a fantasy band - and journalists.	107	
6b	Home exchange	A2-B2	Students draw a plan of their flat/ house or one they know well. Mingle and find a tenant.	110	
6c	Soundtracks	B1-C2	Students listen to excerpts from movie soundtracks, design and pitch their movie based on it.	113	
6d	Rate your stay	B1+	Students respond to a stimulus of a bad hotel and write a review, then read and evaluate each others' reviews.	116	
6e	Struggling artist	A1+	Students draw their masterpiece, then create a gallery to admire and interpret the work of their peers.	120	
6f	Elevator pitch	B1-C2	Students have a personal project, or something for their community. They compete for patrons.	122	
7	Whole class		Activities where students work together as a whole class to solve a shared problem or complete a task.	125	
7a	Dictogloss	A2-C1	Short text read aloud, students reconstruct. Versions compared.	126	
7b	Decon-Recon	A1+	Text is deconstructed into fact sentences then later reconstructed. Versions compared.	129	
7c	Retranslation	B1+	Short text translated from English into L1, later translated back. Versions compared.	132	
7d	Text recon	B1-B2	Students given title and key words in order, then reconstruct the story. Versions compared.	134	
7e	Story jigsaw	B1-C2	Students reconstruct a story based on the first sentence and a chance to interrogate the teacher.	137	
	Additional resources				
	Glossary of key terms				
	Index of language areas				

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