

Intermediate English Conversation Class

– Lesson 7

Level 4 – Describing Problems and Suggesting Solutions Imaginary problems

Duration: 20 minutes

Note for Mentors: When discussing personal problems, handle the conversation **sensitively**. Some mentees may not feel comfortable sharing real problems. In such cases, encourage them to create **imaginary examples** (e.g., “I lost my homework,” “My phone ran out of battery,” “I fought with my friend”) instead of forcing real ones. The goal is to **practice language**, not to probe into their private lives.

Grammar Focus:

- **Modal Verbs** – should, must, could, can, will, would

Examples –

- **Should** – advice → You **should** eat healthy food.
- **Must** – necessity/obligation → You **must** wear your uniform.
- **Could** – possibility → You **could** ask a teacher for help.
- **Can** – ability/permission → You **can** call me if you need help.
- **Will** – definite future decision → I **will** finish my homework tonight.
- **Would** – imagined/hypothetical → I **would** go to the park if it stopped raining.

Difference between will and would:


- **Will** = a real decision or promise about the future (certain).
I **will** call you tomorrow.
She **will** help me with her notes.
- **Would** = used for imagined situations, polite offers, or less certain actions.
I **would** play outside if it wasn't raining.
Would you like some tea?


- **Cause and Effect Phrases** – because, so, that's why


Examples

- **Because** → I was late **because** the bus broke down.
- **So** → The bus broke down, **so** I was late.
- **That's why** → The bus broke down. **That's why** I was late.

1. Warm-Up (3 minutes)

 Mentor: Have you ever had a problem while studying or getting ready for school? What did you do in that problem situation?


 Mentee: (Responds)


 Mentor: Today we will practice how to talk about daily problems and suggest simple solutions.


Prompt Examples:


- What if your house is noisy during study time?
- What if your uniform is wet in the morning?
- What if your notebook is missing?

2. Model Conversation (6 minutes)

 Sneha: I have a problem. My house is too noisy in the evening. I can't concentrate on homework.

 Arjun: You **should** try studying early in the morning. It's quieter.

 Sneha: I do that sometimes. But some days, I'm too tired.

 Arjun: You **could** ask your family for some quiet time, or maybe go to your aunt's or grandparents' house for an hour.

 Sneha: That's a good idea. My grandmother's house is nearby and quiet.

 Arjun: You **must not** forget to carry your books.

 Sneha: Yes, I'll pack them before leaving. Thank you for the advice!

Practice Instructions:

- *Read once with the mentee.*
- *Switch roles.*
- *Then ask: "Have you had a similar problem?" Encourage the mentee to describe and respond using the same grammar.*

3. Mentee Practice (6 minutes)

Activity 1: Suggest a Solution

Mentor gives a situation → Mentee responds with a solution using modal verbs.

Examples:

- Your school shoes are torn.
→ You **should** wear another pair and repair them later.
- There was no electricity last night.
→ You **must** keep a candle or torch ready.
- You forgot to do your homework.
→ You **could** do it during the lunch break.

Activity 2: Personal or Imaginary Problem Share

Mentee describes:

- A real problem (*if they are comfortable*), OR an **imaginary problem** (*if they prefer*).
- Why it happened (*because...*)
- Solution (*should, could, must, will, would*)

4. Grammar Practice (3 minutes)

Fill in the blanks (mixed modals and connectors):

1. You _____ keep a small torch ready at night. → (*should*)
2. The road was blocked, _____ we were late. → (*so*)
3. My school bag got wet _____ I left it outside. → (*because*)
4. You _____ talk politely if you want help. → (*must*)
5. I _____ call you tomorrow to remind you. → (*will*)
6. I _____ buy this book if it were cheaper. → (*would*)


Extra Practice – Will vs. Would

1. I think it _____ rain tomorrow. → (*will*)
2. If it rained tomorrow, I _____ stay at home. → (*would*)
3. She promised she _____ meet me at 5 PM. → (*will*)
4. He said he _____ help me if he had time. → (*would*)
5. My parents _____ be very happy if I get good marks. → (*will*)
6. I _____ visit the Taj Mahal if I went to Agra. → (*would*)
7. Don't worry, I _____ carry your bag for you. → (*will*)
8. I _____ buy that phone, but it's too expensive. → (*would*)

Mini Role-Play (Will vs. Would)

 Mentee: I forgot my pencil.

 Mentor: Don't worry, I **will** lend you one.

 Mentee: Thank you! I **would** be lost in math class without it.

5. Wrap-Up & Homework (2 minutes)

Quick Review:

- Tell me a small problem you had recently.
- What caused it?
- What did you do, or what could you have done to solve the problem?

Homework:

Record 4–5 sentences about:

- A daily life problem
- What caused it (*because / so / that's why*)
- One or two practical solutions (*using modal verbs like should, must, could, will, would*)

Ask them to play the recording in the next class.