

Sample lesson plan for *Grammar for IELTS* Unit 15

Student preparation for this class: Have learners study the first part, the grammar, before the class, check the Grammar reference on page 122 and make notes on anything they need clarifying in class. (20–30 mins)

Teacher preparation: none

Practice exercises (45 mins)

FOCUS

These exercises train learners to use reported speech in an appropriate way in spoken and written English.

Direct attention to the Grammar tip in the middle of page 63. Highlight how the reporting words help to clarify someone's attitude.

Exercise 1

Have learners complete items 1–4 first, then complete items 5–8 following feedback on the first four. Before completing 5–8, point out that learners should try to use different reporting words to the ones in 1–4 where possible.

Typical mistakes: Item 1 in the exercise is the only one that has a reference to specific point in time, (*yesterday*) and learners may forget to change it to *the day before*. You might want to have them look at items 1–4 and identify which one they thought was the most difficult and why. They might say item 4 as it requires an understanding of reported questions, but make sure they note the two operations required in item 1, i.e. tense change and time reference change.

Exercise 2

This exercise provides useful practice for Part 2 of the Speaking exam. Have learners follow the instructions, i.e. preparing for one minute for a two-minute talk by making notes. When they are ready, have them record the talk if possible. Otherwise, they should give the talk to their partner. They either listen back to their own talk and think about how to improve what they have said, or listen to comments from their partner. They should then be ready to listen to the model on Track 27 and compare with their own answer. Give learners another minute to improve their talk. Then pair them up with different partner to give their talks again.

Typical mistakes: It can be difficult to get things right first time, so it is always useful to provide students with an opportunity to improve – as suggested above. If you feel your learners need more practice, you could have them give their talk to as many students as you feel appropriate.

Exercise 3

Point out that reported speech is often used in comprehension-type questions in the Reading exam. This exercise provides a context for this use. Direct attention to the Exam tip at the bottom of page 64. Highlight that this is an important point and that a similar one has already been made in the Grammar tip on page 63.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY (20 MINS)

For additional practice in using reported speech, have learners work in groups of four to discuss the rise in celebrity culture and its effect on society. Nominate one student as a note-taker and have the others discuss the topic. After five minutes, have the note-taker go over what the others have said to check their opinions, e.g. *'Anton, you claimed that celebrity culture was a good thing. Is that right?'*

Exam practice (30 mins)

This can be assigned for homework. Remind learners to look again at the Tip boxes before completing the Exam practice section.

If you have time in the next class, have learners work in groups to evaluate the impact of what they learned in Unit 7 on their understanding of the text in the Exam practice. If necessary, prompt them to think about how their understanding of reference words within a text helps overall understanding.