

The Fun Theory

Level: Intermediate

Topic: Business and Economy.

Key vocabulary: Bilingual lists in PDF and boxes (Teachers can download this material from the online version of the magazine.)

Preparation: A copy of the article for each student, a language worksheet with comprehension activities, internet access.

Objective: Students become aware of environmental issues and how people's behavior can change for the better by making "green" behavior more fun.

Warm up

Write the words **lazy behavior** on the board and ask students how they feel about those words. What do they understand by reading them? Ask them to brainstorm what actions come to their minds when they read **lazy behavior**? Now write **environmentally friendly behavior** on the board and ask them to brainstorm environmentally friendly actions.

As you have the board full of words and/or expressions, ask them which ones sound fun or exciting. Answers may vary but you can introduce the topic of the article by pointing out that being actively involved in important issues such as green behavior can be fun.

Show the students the video 'Piano Stairs'. (Find the video in YouTube by clicking on the link that is on page 67 of the online magazine.)

Allow some time to make comments on the video.



My English Break!

Main Activity

1. Give each student a photocopy of the article.
2. Allow the students to read in pairs and do cooperative work like helping each other with vocabulary they don't know. Encourage them to guess meaning from context clues before using a dictionary or asking you.
3. Hand out the language worksheet with comprehension activities you have prepared in advance (WH questions for checking comprehension, true or false and correction of false statements, matching vocabulary and meaning, etc.).
4. As an optional activity you can use the article to review present simple and present perfect.
5. Allow some time for discussion.
 - a) Could we get more people to choose the stairs in (Chile, Mexico, Spain, Peru) by making it fun to do? (Teachers should use the country they live in to make it meaningful to students.)
 - b) What do you think people's reaction would be to Piano stairs in your country?
 - c) Do you agree with the following statement? 'Pianos stairs are a good idea but too expensive to implement in every subway station. The majority of people will still use the regular stairs and elevators.'

Follow up

1. At the end of the class allow students to watch the other two videos: 'The world's deepest bin' and 'Bottle bank arcade' (page 67 of the magazine).
2. Encourage students to work in pairs or in groups and write the script for a new commercial associated with the Fun Theory. Monitor the use of appropriate vocabulary and grammar structures.
3. They can act out their commercials in front of the class or they can tape them and share them the following class.