

3C Answerphone

Activity type: Reading and writing – Understanding and writing messages – Pairs

Aim: To practise writing short notes; to practise using subject and object pronouns and possessive adjectives

Language: Take a phone message – Use at any point from Explore Speaking, p32.

Preparation: Make one copy of the worksheet for each learner.

Time: 20 minutes

- 1 Give one copy of the worksheet to each learner. Explain that the text in the speech bubble in section 1 is a message which Erkan received on his answerphone. Read the message aloud for learners to follow and explain that Erkan then wrote a note for Louise. Learners look at the three notes from Erkan to Louise and decide which is the correct one. (*Answer:* B)
- 2 Learners read the transcript of another message, in section 2, then imagine they are Sam and write a note to leave for Steve. *Suggested answer:*

Steve

Can you phone Amy on her mobile? She needs to take Jill to the doctor's on Monday afternoon. Can she take her in your car?

Sam

- 3 Learners work in pairs and compare their notes with each other. Monitor and help with any problems.
- 4 Tell learners that they are going to leave a message on their partner's answerphone in which they ask their partner to give some information to another learner. Allow 5–10 minutes for learners to write down the 'transcript' of their messages.
- 5 Learners take it in turns to read their messages to each other. Then they each write the notes they will leave.

Weaker classes

Learners could swap the written versions of the answering-machine message instead of reading them, so that they have the written version to refer to when writing their note.

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1



Hi Erkan, this is Greg. Can you ask Louise to phone Camilla tonight? I can't go to the concert with her and Michaela tomorrow night. Can Louise go with them? I can give Louise my ticket if she wants to go. Thanks, bye!

A

Lou, Can you phone Camilla tonight? Greg can't go to the concert tomorrow. Can you go with Camilla and Michaela? Greg can give Camilla your ticket if she wants to go. Erkan

B

Lou, Can you phone Camilla tonight? Greg can't go to the concert tomorrow. Can you go with Camilla and Michaela? Greg can give you his ticket if you want to go. Erkan

C

Lou, Can you phone Camilla tonight? She can't go to the concert tomorrow. Can you go with Greg and Michaela? Camilla can give you her ticket if you want to go. Erkan

2



Hi Sam, this is Amy. Can you ask Steve to phone me on my mobile? I need to take Jill to the doctor's on Monday afternoon. Can I take her in his car? Thanks, Sam. Bye!

