

9B Three phone calls

Activity type: Speaking – Role play – Groups of three

Aim: To practise speaking on the telephone and making arrangements.

Language: Telephone expressions – Coursebook p70 – Vocabulary; Invitations and replies – Coursebook p73

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

Time: 20–30 minutes

- 1 Draw two people near the top of the board, far apart from each other. Draw a thought bubble from the first person with a picture or word inside to suggest a place to go out, e.g. *cinema*. Explain that the two people are having a phone conversation and the first wants to go to the cinema. Ask learners what they think the conversation would be. Start with the first person answering the phone and saying *Hello*. Build up a conversation on the board.
- 2 Elicit and write on the board *I'm (really) busy; I'll call you later; Can you call me later?; Who's calling?*.
- 3 Put learners into groups of three. Learners decide who is A, B and C in their group. Give each learner a worksheet.
- 4 Learners look at Conversation 1. Learners A and B close their Coursebooks. Learner C can look on p70. A and B think about what they should say in each part of the conversation. C helps by referring to the Coursebook. Learners should replace the letters A, B and C with their own names. Check learners know who is phoning who and who speaks first in each conversation.
- 5 A and B sit back to back. C sits where he / she can hear them both. A and B begin Conversation 1 using their notes. C listens and helps if necessary.
- 6 Repeat with Conversations 2 and 3. The learner who is not taking part in the conversation helps prepare and gives feedback.


Extension

Ask a strong group to act out their conversations in front of the class.

9B Three phone calls

Conversation 1

A

 Answer the phone and say your name.

Say you are fine.

Say yes.

Say that you are free then. Say "Let's ask C if he / she wants to come too."

Say goodbye.

B

Say hello and ask how A is.

Ask A to go somewhere with you. (Where?)


Say the time / day.

Say "That's fine".

Say goodbye.

Conversation 2

C

 Answer the phone. Say your name.

Say you are fine but you are very busy. Ask if you can call back later.

Say that's OK. Say goodbye.

A

Say "Hello, it's (your name)". Ask how C is.

Say you are going out now. Ask C to call B.

Say goodbye.

Conversation 3

B

 Answer the phone. Say your name.

Ask who's calling.

Say where you are going with A. Invite C.

Say the time / date.

Say goodbye.

C

Say hello (but don't say your name).

Say your name.

Say yes. Ask when.

Say that's OK or you are busy (you choose).

Say goodbye.