

Asking and responding to favors

Part 1: Observe

Pre-viewing activities:

Discuss the following questions in pairs:

1. What do you usually do if you need to ask someone a favor?
2. What kind of favors do you think are OK to ask? Which ones are not OK? Make a list.
3. Share an interesting personal experience related to favors.

While-viewing activities:

You're going to watch a video twice. The first time, take notes for these questions:

4. What's the difference between the two approaches?
5. Are they successful? Why (not)?

Now watch it again:

6. Write down some of the language used in the interactions.

Part 2: Analyze

Post-viewing activities:

7. Following the dialogue on the board that we've looked at, can you think of any other possible structures to replace any of the sentences?
8. Do you think they're more formal or more informal? Rank them from more to less formal and think of a possible context for each one.



Part 3: Extend

9. Look at the verb phrases below. Choose two things you would like somebody to do for you. Think about any details and take some notes in preparation for the role-play.
- look after (your children, your dog for the weekend, your flat while you're away, etc.)
 - lend you (some money, their car, etc.)
 - give you a ride (home, to the supermarket, etc.)
 - help you (with a problem, with your homework, to paint your house, to choose some new clothes, etc.)
10. By following the three stages we've talked about, ask your partner for a favor. Respond to one of his/her favors. Then change the situation and ask another classmate, but this time make it a failure. Why is it a failure?

Self-Assessment: Asking a favor – role-play activity

| I included: | One of the language structures | One successful interaction | One failed interaction |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Yes | | | |
| No | | | |

