

Handout #1 (observation)

1. Watch an excerpt from the film *Volver* and check the items you hear.
 - a. Me pones 8kg.
 - b. ¿Te importaría prestarme 100€?
 - c. Mañana te los doy.
 - d. ¿No te habrás traído unas morcillas, unos choricillos...?
 - e. Necesito como kilo y medio.
 - f. ¿Podrías vendérmelas?
 - g. Prometo pagártelas mañana.
 - h. Oye, ¿y dulces?
 - i. Parece mentira que traigas mantecados.
 - j. ¿Me los puedes traer a casa?

2. Watch a clip from *The Cosby Show* and another one from *Friends*. Answer the questions below for each video. You'll watch them twice.

	<i>The Cosby Show</i>	<i>Friends</i>
Question 1: What is the relationship between the interlocutors (speakers)? E.g. Are they strangers? Friends? Professor and student?		
Question 2: What do they request?		
Question 3: What is the result/outcome?		



Handout #2 (analysis)

Discuss these questions in groups:

1. How well do the two people know each other?
2. Who is making the request? What is his/her social status? What is the social status of the other person?
3. What is the situation/context in which the request is made?
4. How important is the request? E.g. Is it a big request?
5. Do you think the request strategy used follows the pragmatic norms given that context/situation and the relationship between the people? Why (not)?
6. Is the request successful? Why (not)?
7. How do these 2 situations compare to the situations in the video of *Volver*? Think of at least 2 similarities and 2 differences.



Handout #3 (extension)

For each scenario below, create a dialogue.

- For one of the scenarios, choose the request strategies according to the context by thinking about the elements we have talked about: social distance, power relationship and level of imposition. It should be a successful interaction.
- For the other scenario, choose request strategies that don't follow the norms we have discussed.
- Be ready to act out your dialogues with the class but don't tell others about the context/situation.

Scenario Ideas:

Group 1

Scenario 1: You are in class and you ask another student to lend you his/her notes.

Scenario 2: You are going out of town for a few days, and you need to ask a neighbor (who you have never met) to water your plants.

Group 2

Scenario 1: You need a book from the library for an assignment you are doing, but the book is already checked out. You see another student you do not know with the book. Ask him/her to lend you the book to photocopy a couple of chapters.

Scenario 2: You need to ask your boss for a Friday off because you want to go to a friend's wedding in a couple of weeks.



Group 3

Scenario 1: You are in the library. You want to get a book off of the shelf, but it is too high for you to reach. You ask a classmate taller than you to get the book down for you.

Scenario 2: You are about to get on the bus. You reach in your pocket but realize you forgot your money. You ask a stranger for help.

Group 4

Scenario 1: Your ride to the airport flaked on you, and you need to be there in the morning. You call your friend to ask for a ride.

Scenario 2: You are in your English teacher's office and you remember that you urgently need to make a phone call, but your mobile is dead. There is no public telephone around, so you ask your teacher to let you use his/her office phone.

**Some scenarios are adapted from Díaz Pérez, F. J. (2009). Perspective selection and politeness in the production of face-threatening acts in English and Spanish. In Guillén Nieto, V., Marimón Llorca, C., & Vargas Sierra, C., *Intercultural business communication and simulation and gaming technology* (pp. 189-222). Universidad de la Rioja.



Handout #4 (assessment)

	Social distance Do they know each other?		Power relationship Is the power balanced/equal?		Degree of imposition Is it a small request?		Was it successful? What do you think is the context? Try to guess
GROUP 1:							
Scenario 1	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Scenario 2	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
GROUP 2:							
Scenario 1	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Scenario 2	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
GROUP 3:							
Scenario 1	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Scenario 2	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
GROUP 4:							
Scenario 1	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Scenario 2	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	

