

Lesson plan

Unit 3	Working in teams
Lesson 2	Collective Thinking and Solutions
Recommended lang. level	B2, C1, C2

<p>Outcomes</p> <p>After this lesson, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate how collective thinking improves decision-making • Collaborate effectively to reach a group consensus • Compare individual and group problem-solving strategies • Use English to negotiate, justify opinions, and agree on solutions • Reflect on how teamwork influences the quality of outcomes
<p>Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: <i>Collective Thinking and Solutions</i> (slides) • Inspirational video: <i>A Bug's Life – The Leaf</i> • Student Handout: "The Bean Jar" • Student Handout HO1: Rapporteur Sheet • Image of a jar filled with beans (projected / printed) • Post-it notes / paper for estimates
<p>Frameworks connections</p> <p>Cambridge Life Competencies Framework: creative thinking, critical thinking, communication, collaboration, learning to learn, social responsibility</p>

Cambridge Employability Skills Framework: collaboration and teamwork, communication, critical thinking and problem-solving, leadership and initiative, self-management and resilience, creativity and innovation

SPIRE Framework: setup, perform, inspire, review, empower

Duration	90 min	
Overview	Stage	Timing
	Introductory discussion	5 min
	Inspirational video	10 min
	Introducing the challenge	10 min
	Team challenge: The Bean Jar	30 min
	Rapporteur feedback & discussion	15 min
	Conclusion	10 min
	Reflection	10 min

Procedure			
Stage	Aim	Duration	Procedure
1. Introductory discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To introduce the lesson topic To activate prior knowledge about 	5 min	Show the “ <i>Let’s get ready</i> ” slide. Briefly explain that the lesson focuses on collective thinking and finding better solutions together . Ask students:



	teamwork and decision-making		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Is one person always better at solving problems than a group? Why / why not?</i> Students briefly discuss in pairs, then share ideas with the class.
2. Inspirational video	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To inspire students • To introduce teamwork, leadership, and motivation 	10 min	<p>Show the “Let’s start” slide. Introduce the video “A Bug’s Life – The Leaf” and ask students to focus on how the ants work together. Play the video. After watching, discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What helped the ants succeed? • Who led the group and how?
3. Introducing the challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explain the task clearly • To prepare students for collaborative decision-making 	10 min	<p>Show the image of the bean jar and distribute Student Handout: “The Bean Jar”</p> <p>Explain that students will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Estimate individually 2. Work in pairs 3. Work in larger groups 4. Reach a final group consensus <p>Emphasize that the process is more important than the correct answer.</p>
4. Team challenge:	<p>Aim:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To practice collective 	30 min	<p>Students first write individual estimates. Then they:</p>

<p>The Bean Jar</p>	<p>thinking and negotiation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To experience how group size influences decisions 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare estimates in pairs Join larger groups (4–5 students) Discuss and agree on one final number <p>Assign one rapporteur per group and distribute HO1 – Rapporteur Sheet</p> <p>Working in teams- Collective T...</p> <p>The rapporteur observes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation Use of English Encouraging language Decision-making process
<p>5. Rapporteur feedback & discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reflect on teamwork and decision-making To encourage analytical thinking 	<p>15 min</p>	<p>Show the “<i>Let’s discuss</i>” slide. Students discuss in groups the questions provided (changes in estimates, group size, decision-making). Rapporteurs share key observations with the class.</p>
<p>6. Conclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consolidate learning To highlight the value of collective thinking 	<p>10 min</p>	<p>Teacher summarizes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups often reach better solutions than individuals Listening and negotiation are key Leadership can shift within a team



			Students share one insight about how their thinking changed during the activity.
7. Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage self-evaluation To reinforce lesson outcomes 	10 min	<p>Show the “<i>Let’s reflect</i>” slide. Students individually tick statements such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can collaborate to reach a group decision I can explain how our team’s strategy changed I can reflect on how teamwork improved results <p>Optional: students write one sentence about what kind of team they work best in.</p>

Additional considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on respectful discussion and equal participation Encourage quieter students to contribute Emphasize that disagreement is part of productive teamwor