Childhood and memories ESL lesson plan (B2)

B2 (upper intermediate) · 60 minutes · for English teachers · englishcue.app

Stage	Time
Warm-up	5–10 min
Vocabulary	15 min
Controlled practice	10 min
Speaking	15 min
Wrap-up and homework	5 min

1. Warm-up (5–10 min)

- What is your earliest memory?
- What did you use to do that you never do now?
- Tell me about a time you got into trouble.

2. Vocabulary (15 min)

Elicit each word before you give it, model the pronunciation, then check meaning with a quick question.

Word	Meaning	Example
formative years	the period of your life when your character develops	I spent my formative years in Kenya.
coming of age	the time when a person becomes an adult	It's a coming of age story.
sheltered	protected from the difficulties of life	I had a very sheltered childhood.
idyllic	extremely happy and peaceful	We had an idyllic childhood by the sea.
traumatic	very shocking and upsetting	It was a traumatic experience.
bittersweet	happy and sad at the same time	It's a bittersweet memory.
reminisce	to talk or think about happy times in the past	We reminisced about our school days.
evoke	to bring a memory or feeling into your mind	The smell evoked memories of my grandmother's kitchen.
repress	to stop yourself from remembering something painful	He repressed memories of the war.
hazy	not clear; difficult to remember	My memory of that night is a bit hazy.

Speaking (15 min): Three objects from your childhood

The learner chooses three objects they remember from childhood and tells the story behind each one: what it was, where it was kept and what happened to it. You choose the one you want to hear more about.

Useful language

- When I was a child, I used to...
- I remember + -ing...
- I was allowed to... / I wasn't allowed to...
- We would spend hours...
- I'll never forget the day...
- It reminds me of...

Wrap-up and homework (5 min)

- Each learner says the three new words they will remember, and one sentence with each.
- Homework: write 80–120 words about childhood and memories using at least six words from the lesson.
- Self-study: the B2 childhood and memories vocabulary page on englishcue.app has a self-correcting quiz with all 22 words.

Childhood and memories (B2)

Student handout · Name: _____ · Date: _____

A. Word bank

the good old days · a trip down memory lane · rings a bell · misspent youth · on the tip of my tongue · rose-tinted glasses · a blast from the past · etched in my memory

B. Complete the sentences

Use a word from the word bank. Then compare with a partner.

1. Looking at old photos was _____.
2. His name is _____.
3. That day is _____.
4. I blame my _____.
5. The name _____.
6. My dad always talks about _____.
7. This song is _____.
8. We see our childhood through _____.

C. Talk with a partner

Ask and answer. Make notes of one interesting answer to report to the class.

1. What were you afraid of as a child?
2. What did you and your friends do after school?
3. Which smell, song or food takes you straight back to childhood?
4. What rule did you think was unfair?
5. What is the best thing your parents did for you?

Write

Write 80–120 words about childhood and memories. Use six words from the lesson.

Answer key

B. Complete the sentences: 1 a trip down memory lane · 2 on the tip of my tongue · 3 etched in my memory · 4 misspent youth · 5 rings a bell · 6 the good old days · 7 a blast from the past · 8 rose-tinted glasses