Friends and friendship 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)

- How did you meet your oldest friend?
- What makes someone a good friend?
- Have you ever lost contact with a friend? What happened?

2. Vocabulary (15 min)

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

Word	Meaning	Example
kindred spirit	a person who thinks and feels the same way as you	I knew at once she was a kindred spirit.
fair-weather friend	a friend who disappears when you have problems	He turned out to be a fair-weather friend.
frenemy	someone who acts like a friend but is really a rival (informal)	My frenemy always criticizes my clothes.
confidant	a person you trust with your secrets	She's been my confidant for years.
rapport	a friendly relationship where people understand each other	We built a great rapport quickly.
camaraderie	trust and friendship between people in a group	There's real camaraderie in the team.
platonic	friendly, without romance	Our relationship is purely platonic.
drift apart	to slowly become less close	We drifted apart after university.
strike up	to start a friendship or conversation	We struck up a friendship on the train.
rekindle	to make a feeling or relationship start again	They rekindled their friendship after 20 years.

Speaking (15 min): Introduce your friend

The learner introduces a real friend as if you were going to meet them tomorrow: how they met, three adjectives with an example for each and one thing you should not mention. You ask two follow-up questions.

Useful language

- We've known each other for... / since...
- We have a lot in common.
- She's easy-going / reliable / good fun.
- We get on really well.
- to keep in touch · to fall out · to make up · to catch up
- I can always count on...

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 friends and friendship using at least six words from the lesson.
- Self-study: the B2 friends and friendship vocabulary page on englishcue.app has a self-correcting quiz with all 22 words.

Friends and friendship (B2)

Student handout · Name: _____ · Date: _____

A. Word bank

through thick and thin · clingy · see eye to eye · have your back · two-faced · got on like a house on fire · thick as thieves · a shoulder to cry on

B. Complete the sentences

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

1. Don't worry: I _____.
2. She's always been _____.
3. My friend gets a bit _____.
4. We _____.
5. We don't always _____.
6. Don't trust him. He's _____.
7. Those two are _____.
8. He's stood by me _____.

C. Talk with a partner

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

1. Is it harder to make friends as an adult?
2. Tell me about something a friend did for you that you will never forget.
3. Can you be friends with someone who thinks very differently from you?
4. How do you keep in touch with friends who live far away?
5. What do your friends say about you?

Write

Write 80–120 words about friends and friendship. Use six words from the lesson.

Answer key

B. Complete the sentences: 1 have your back · 2 a shoulder to cry on · 3 clingy · 4 got on like a house on fire · 5 see eye to eye · 6 two-faced · 7 thick as thieves · 8 through thick and thin