HOW TO ENGLISH
With Gav & Em
Free teacher practice card

How Do You Adjust the Difficulty of an English-Lesson Activity?

S06E04 | For teachers to adapt to their learners

Teaching focus

We can change the language, support, preparation or required outcome while keeping a useful activity. First identify what is making the task easy or difficult for these learners.

Our suggested routine

1. Keep the original learning purpose clear.
2. Identify the barrier: instructions, language, preparation or interaction.
3. Add a model, vocabulary choices or thinking time where needed.
4. Offer optional support so learners can still make their own choices.
5. Increase challenge with reasons, follow-ups or another viewpoint.
6. Check any adapted materials and their answers before using them.
7. Watch participation and ask what helped before making the next adjustment.

After the attempt

What could learners do? What needed another model or a smaller step? Choose one useful adjustment and try the task again.

Notes for our next lesson

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Read the full teaching article and listen to the episode at howtoenglishpod.com