CLASSROOM LANGUAGE: GENERATING RESPONSES

9.1. Vocabulary

Ex. 1. *Match the words to their Russian equivalents.*

1. preview	a. соединять
2. call back	b. случайный
3. random	c. предварительные знания
4. prior knowledge	d. опыт
5. connect	e. планировать заранее
6. plan ahead	f. вспоминать
7. recall	g. предварительно просматривать
8. reference	h. помнить
9. experience	i. упоминание
10. remind (one) of	j. напоминать (кому-то) о
11. remember	k. перезванивать

Ex. 2. Complete the sentences with the given words:

knowledge, back, of, reminded, remember, preview, experiences, experience, prior, recall, random, plan, call, ahead

I missed your call last night, but I'll _____(1) you _____(2) as soon as possible.

I have a lot of _____(3) solving math problems, so ask me for help if you get stuck.

_____(4) to _____(5) _____(6) and bring all your materials for the class presentation.

Let's _____(7) the next lesson before we start the discussion.

_____(8) _____(9) is important when trying to understand new concepts.

The teacher chose a _____(10) group of students to work on the project.

Can you _____(11) what we learned in our last class?

The story _____(12) me _____(13) my own childhood _____(14).

9.2. Reading

Ex. 1. Read the text.

When you don't know a word or phrase in your own language, what do you do? Do you look it up in a dictionary? Ask someone else? Or just forget about it?

In this lesson, we look at some techniques for dealing with difficult vocabulary and phrases when we're listening to someone speaking English.

1. Get the main idea

When we listen to people speaking our own language, we often only hear the main idea of what they say, not every single word. We can use the same technique in English. For example, if someone says: 'I couldn't get through to him. He wasn't answering his phone', we don't need to understand every word to follow the story. We can guess that 'couldn't get through' probably means 'couldn't call' and 'he wasn't answering' probably means 'he didn't reply'.

2. Pay attention to the context

The words and phrases around a new word or phrase can help us understand its meaning. For example, if someone says: 'He's very experienced and he knows how to deal with difficult customers', we can guess that 'experienced' means 'has a lot of knowledge and skill'. The opposite is true too: if we don't understand a word, we may miss the meaning of the whole sentence.

3. Use your prior knowledge

Sometimes, we can understand a new word or phrase because it reminds us of something similar in our own language. For example, if someone says: 'She's got a photographic memory', even if we don't know what 'photographic' means, we may be able to guess from the context that it has something to do with 'taking photos' and that it describes someone who can remember things very clearly.

4. Use the speaker's body language

When we talk to each other, we also use our faces and bodies to communicate our ideas. If we watch carefully, we can understand a lot from the speaker's body

language. For example, if someone says: 'I'm sorry, but I don't think that's a very good idea', and they look unhappy or worried, we can guess that they probably mean 'no'.

5. Make random guesses

When we're listening to people speaking English, it's important not to worry too much about every word or phrase we don't know. Sometimes, we just need to accept that we won't understand everything. In these situations, making random guesses can help us feel more relaxed and enjoy the conversation.

6. Plan ahead

If we're going to listen to a talk or a radio programme, it's a good idea to read any information about the topic before we start. This will help us understand the main ideas and follow the story better.

7. Preview the text

Before we listen to a recording, we can quickly read through the questions or tasks. This will help our brain to connect with what we're going to hear and also prepare us for the kind of information we need to listen for.

Ex. 2. *Which title fits best?*

1. How to Become Fluent in English Without Learning New Words

2. The Importance of Memorizing Every Word When Listening in English

3. Effective Techniques for Understanding Difficult Vocabulary and Phrases in English

Ex. 3. *Answer the questions.*

1. What are some techniques for dealing with difficult vocabulary and phrases when listening to someone speaking English?

2. How can we understand the meaning of a new word or phrase by paying attention to the context?

3. How can our prior knowledge help us understand a new word or phrase?

4. How can we use the speaker's body language to understand their message?

5. Why is it important not to worry too much about every word or phrase we don't know when listening to people speaking English?

6. What can we do before listening to a talk or a radio programme to better understand the main ideas and follow the story?

7. How can previewing the text before listening to a recording help us during the listening activity?

9.3. Communication

Ex. 1. *Make sentences using the following words:*

1. repeat/slowly/understand

2. missed/again/time

3. think/moment

4. example

5. clarify

6. interesting/more

7. answer/help

8. job/good/work