

# Planning and Extended Speaking in the Classroom

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## Why?

- Personalise language learning
- Authentic form of communication
- Focus on meaning
- Opportunity to tackle longer piece of spoken discourse
- 'Real-time' production
- Motivating
- Enhance group dynamics
- Planning time
- Bridge divide between accuracy and fluency

## Background:

Talking about something with which they are familiar will be easier for accuracy than if they create something new from scratch. *Scott Thornbury*

Planned speech can give the speaker the opportunity to experiment with and therefore develop language. *Patrick Howarth*

Planning time allows students to devote attention to both form and content, rather than forcing them to choose one at the expense of the other. *Pauline Foster*

## Research overview:

Non-planners:            Pause 25 times      Silent 90 secs      Accuracy 70%

Planners:                Pause **12** times      Silent **21** secs      Accuracy **81%**  
*Foster / Hird*

## Example speaking activities:



### SPEAKING HUB

**A** Listen to Salli recommending a film. What does she talk about?

- 1 the film type or genre
- 2 the main story
- 3 the actors, the director, the writer
- 4 what she likes about it
- 5 how it made her feel

**B PLAN** You are going to recommend a film or book. Decide which film or book you are going to talk about and make notes about the topics in Exercise A.

**C ORGANISE** Use adjectives for describing films or books and at least one first conditional sentence (*If you like ..., you'll love ...*).

**D DISCUSS** Work in groups. Recommend the film or book you chose to your group.

### SPEAKING



**A** Listen to a presentation about the Gullfoss Waterfall in Iceland and answer the questions.

- 11.4
- Where is it located?
  - When was it formed or created?
  - What is it surrounded by?
  - How is it reached?
  - Who and how many people visit it?
  - Why are people attracted to it?

**B** Work in pairs. Choose a natural wonder in your country or continent to give a presentation about. Use the questions in Exercise A to help you.

**C** Give your presentation to the class.

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