

Planning and Extended Speaking in the Classroom

Jon Hird Malta, October 2019

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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