**Blog Project and Oral Presentation:**

*What We Learned from The Young Traveler’s Gift*

*Objective:* After reading and discussing the Young Traveler’s Gift, students will design, create, and orally present a blog in groups of two, demonstrating how to apply one of the Decisions for Success **in a real-life situation.** The blog will include the following elements:

* + *Scenario***:** In your blogs, describe a **scenario based on your personal experience here at school** in which you have had to face conflict or overcome some kind of difficulty**.**
	+ *Solution***:** Choose **one** Decision for Success and **explain** how that decision could have improved the situation. You *may only use a decision that no one in your group has previously written about.*
		- Examples**:** As part of your solution, describe how your protagonist should act in order to solve the problem. Include **three concrete steps** that they could take to make things right or to prevent similar situations in the future.
1. **Blog Requirements (**Create an account at**: www.weebly.com)**
* The written portion of the blogs must include the following:

**150-200 words** for the scenario description and **150-200 words** for the solution.

The solution should contain **3 concrete steps** helping us to implement our advice in resolving the problem or in similar situations in the future.

**4 connectors** or linking words (see Appendix 1).

**3 opinion expressions** (see Appendix 2).



1. **Oral Presentation Requirements**
* You will have to present your blogs and explain the **details** of

your hypothetical case, the **Decision for Success** and the **steps**

necessary to resolve your scenarios.

* Reading is **not allowed** during the presentation.
* Every member from the group must speak.
* Presentations must last for at least **2 minutes**.

**Blog Final Checklist**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Question** | **Yes** | **No…so how can we make it right?** |
| Does the blog describe a real problem? |  |  |
| Is the situation likely to interest the other students? |  |  |
| Does the description have 150-200 words? |  |  |
| Does the solution involving the Decision for Success have 150-200 words? |  |  |
| Does the solution include 3 concrete steps for how to resolve similar situations in the future? |  |  |
| Does the blog have **3** visuals for the chosen Decision? |  |  |
| Does the blog have 4 connectors? |  |  |
| Does the blog have 3 opinion expressions? |  |  |
| Has the blog been saved and published? |  |  |

Appendix 1

**Connectors: When and how to use them?**

While appropriate punctuation and capitalization are important to make sure your writing is understandable and clear, **connectors** ensure that your writing flows, from one idea to another, by combining sentences and expressing relationships between ideas.

For example, if you are talking about things your friend Laura likes to do. *Laura loves spending time with her family. She loves cooking and reading.*

With the connector **also,** you can make your sentences flow better, and show that you are **adding details** to the first sentence. *Laura loves spending time with her family. Also, she loves cooking and reading.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Connector** | **To start a sentence with:** | **To put in the middle of a sentence:** | **Examples** |
| **Addition****(to add details)** | Also,Besides,Furthermore,Moreover,In addition, | …as well as ……besides……also… | * *Sarah is the best student of the class. Also, she is really good at sports.*
* *Lemons, as well as apples and oranges, have vitamin C.*
 |
| **Consequence****(to present a consequence)** | As a result,For this reason,Therefore,Consequently, | …therefore… | * *Oliver did not read The Giver for English class. As a result, he failed his test*
* *Lemons have vitamin C, and therefore they are good for a cold.*
 |
| **Exemplifying****(to give examples)** | For instance,For example, | …particularly……including……specifically……such as……especially… | * *My brother loves Harry Potter. For instance, he has attended the midnight premiere of every movie.*
* *Vitamin C can be found in fruits such as lemons, limes, and oranges.*
 |
| **Comparison****( to show similarities)** | In the same way,Likewise,Similarly,Just as …, |  | * *John did a fantastic project and worked long hours. Similarly Tom worked a lot and even at nights.*
 |
| **Contrast****(to show differences)** | On one hand,On the other hand,On the contrary,However,Nevertheless,In contrast toInstead of ₊ noun | …despite ₊ noun…but……yet……still… | * *Tom was not the best student in his class. However, he was the best football player of the school.*
* *He was very tired but he was able to finish his game.*
 |
| **Summarizing****( to summarize)** | In conclusion,To conclude,In summary,To summarize, |  | * *In conclusion, the evidence is clear that Michael Jackson is the most famous singer in the history of pop music.*
 |

Appendix 2

**Opinion Expressions**

**Intermediate:**

1. As far as I know, …
2. I agree with the opinion of …
3. I could be wrong, but…
4. I’d definitely say that …
5. I’d guess/imagine that…
6. I’d say that…
7. I’m absolutely certain that…
8. I’m positive that…
9. I’m pretty sure that…
10. It seems to me that…
11. My (point of) view (on this) is…
12. Obviously, …
13. Some people may disagree with me, but…
14. This is just my opinion, but…
15. Without a doubt, …
16. You probably won’t agree, but…

**Upper-Intermediate:**

1. After much thought, …
2. As I see it, …
3. Correct me if I’m wrong, but …
4. For me/From my point of view, …
5. Frankly, …
6. I am not very familiar with this topic, but …
7. I do believe/feel/think…
8. I have come to the conclusion that…
9. I might change my mind later, but…
10. I reckon/suppose…
11. I tend to think that…
12. I’m not sure I’m the right person to ask, but…
13. I have very limited experience in this, but….
14. I’m pretty confident that…
15. I’ve always thought that…
16. If you ask me, …
17. I’m (absolutely) convinced that…
18. It could be said that …
19. It seems clear to me that…
20. It would seem to me that…
21. My initial reaction is…
22. Not everyone will/would agree with me, but…
23. Personally speaking, …
24. Speaking for myself, …
25. The way I see it (is)…
26. To be (perfectly) frank, …
27. To the best of my knowledge, …
28. What I think is …
29. You could say (that)…

**Advanced**

1. After giving this matter some (serious) thought, …
2. As far as I’m concerned, …
3. I am of the opinion that…
4. I can’t help thinking that…
5. I tend towards the opinion that …
6. I think it’s fair/reasonable to say…
7. I’ll tell you what I think, …
8. I’m entirely/quite convinced that…
9. I’ve come to the conclusion that…
10. If I must come up with an opinion…
11. If you really want my opinion…
12. In my limited experience, …
13. It could/might well be that…
14. Know what I think? …
15. My opinion was best expressed by … when s/he said/wrote…
16. My view/position on this (issue) is that…
17. Plainly, …
18. Quite frankly, …
19. There is a part of me that says …
20. This may well be controversial, but …
21. To my mind/To my way of thinking, …

**Source:** http://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/fl-giving-opinions.htm