

Would you rather ...? (Speaking Task)

Cut up the conversation cards below.

Student A:

1. Would you rather date someone younger or older than you, and why?
2. Would you rather live in the city or the countryside, and why?
3. Would you rather be alone in a room with a crocodile or a tiger?
4. Would you rather eat a fried cockroach or a bowl of dog food?
5. Would you rather work for yourself and make a basic salary or work for a boss and make a lot?
6. Would you rather be a professional sports star or a famous actor?
7. Would you rather find true love but die at 60 or never find true love and live to be 100?
8. Would you rather have an amazing singing voice or be able to speak 3 languages fluently?
9. Would you rather take a time machine to the past or the future? What year would you go to?
10. Would you rather let a serial killer out of prison or put an innocent man into prison for life?



Student B:

1. Would you rather never eat your favourite food again or be forced to eat it twice every day?
2. Would you rather have more free time or more money?
3. Would you rather eat garlic-flavoured ice cream or curry-flavoured chocolate?
4. Would you rather live in the hottest place in the world or the coldest?
5. Would you rather spend a night alone in a haunted house or in a jungle?
6. Would you rather work/study from home or work in an office/go to school?
7. Would you rather never read a book again or never watch a film again?
8. Would you rather win a holiday to New York or Paris? What would you do there?
9. Would you rather be on a survival reality tv show or a dating show?
10. Would you rather have the power to fly or the power to be invisible? What would you do with your power?



Teacher's Notes

Lesson: Would you rather ..? (Speaking Task)

Level: B1 - B2

Time: 20 - 40 minutes

Preparation:

- Students should have studied the structure **would rather + base verb** before doing this exercise.
- Print/Display page 1 for each student, or cut up the cards (one set for every group of 2-3 students)

Teaching Method:

Step 1:

- If necessary, revise the form and use of **would rather + base verb** with the class as follows. This activity only includes examples with **would rather + base verb**, but you might also like to introduce **would rather + past simple** at the end with a strong class.

Use:

We use **would rather** to show a preference for one thing over another. It is similar to **would prefer**, but the structures which follow it are different. We can follow **would prefer** with a to-infinitive or a gerund, but **would rather** is followed by the base verb.

Form:

- + **subject + would rather + base verb + than + base verb**
I would rather live in the city than (live in) the countryside.
- **subject + wouldn't rather + base verb + than + base verb**
I wouldn't rather live in the city than (live in) the countryside.
- ? **Would + subject + rather + base verb + or + base verb**
Would you rather live in the city or (live in) the countryside?

Note:

If the verb/verb phrase in the second clause is the same as the first, we don't normally repeat it.

"I would rather live in the city than the countryside"

Step 2:

- Put students into pairs or groups of 3 if necessary (they can divide the questions between the in this case), and give each pair/group a set of cards/each student one handout. For online lessons, display the page.
- You may want to pre-teach some vocabulary from the questions with lower levels (**date, fried cockroach, be your own boss, fluently, haunted house, jungle, murderer, serial killer, garlic, invisible, survival, and reality show**).
- Encourage them to give reasons for their answers and to ask follow-up questions.
- Listen and take note of any errors made as the students complete the speaking activity.

Step 3:

- Present the errors that were made by students during the speaking task on the board.
- Ask the students to identify and correct the errors in each sentence.

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