BRITISH COUNCIL

LearnEnglish

Speaking: B2

Persuading someone to do something

In this video, Noelia tries to convince Paul to DJ at the office party. Listen to the language Noelia uses for persuading Paul to do something and practise saying the useful phrases.

Before watching

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Decide which five sentences are asking or persuading someone to do something.

a. I'd really appreciate your help with this.
b. Why don't you give it a go?
c. I'm not very good at that.
d. You'd really be helping me out.
e. I don't usually do that kind of thing.
f. You'd be brilliant at it!
g. Come on! There's nothing to lose!
h. OK, I'll think about it.

Tasks

Task 1

Choose the best option to complete the sentences.

1. Noelia wants Paul to DJ at a party for
    a. her friends.
    b. the people they work with.
    c. their customers.
2. Noelia says Paul would
    a. be good at it.
    b. enjoy it.
    c. learn something new from it.
3. Paul thinks his music taste is
    a. excellent.
    b. out of date.
    c. weird.

© British Council 2020

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4. Noelia says their colleagues will dance to
    a. any pop music.
    b. any type of music.
    c. anything from the 90s.
5. Paul is worried about
    a. his DJ equipment.
    b. missing the party while he's DJing.
    c. what people will think of him.
6. In the end, Paul says
    a. yes.
    b. no.
    c. maybe.

Task 2

Put the words in the correct order.

1. got a ask you. small I've favour to

2. you feel would about DJing? How

3. brilliant at it. be You'd

4. DJ I know. I the only ask, wouldn't usually but you're

5. it give Why don't you a go?

6. to nothing There's lose.

7. You'd out. be helping me really

8. OK, it. think I'll about

© British Council 2020

LIVEWORKSHEETS

BRITISH COUNCIL

LearnEnglish

Task 3

Write one word to fill the gaps.

A: Hey, Sunil, have you got a minute? I've got a small (1)..... to ask you.

B: OK.

A: How would you (2)..... about presenting the marketing awards ceremony with me?

B: Presenting? I've never done anything like that before.

A: You're a great speaker! And funny. I think you'd (3)..... brilliant (4)..... it.

B: Oh, I don't know ...

A: Look, I wouldn't (5)..... ask, but you're the only person who could do it. Why don't you (6)..... it a go?

B: Urgh ... But what if I make a bad joke?

A: Come on! There's (7)..... to lose!

B: Mmm ...

A: Sunil, you'd really be helping me (8)..... .

Discussion

Are you good at persuading people to do things?

© British Council 2020

LIVEWORKSHEETS