

How to Write a Lesson Plan: 5 Secrets of Writing Great Lesson Plans

Writing a lesson plan will ensure that you are prepared for your class and will make it run more smoothly. It is important to **break the material up into several sections** and **choose activities suitable for each**. Knowing approximately how much time an activity will take is important, but after the first lesson you may need to adjust things accordingly. It is best to be flexible seeing as different classes will respond to material differently. If at any point students struggle, you will have to dedicate more time to instruction or drilling before moving on to practice activities. For the purposes of this example let's assume that an English class is forty-five minutes long.

How To Proceed

Warm up

A **warm up activity** can be used in a number of ways. It can get your students thinking about material that will be used later on in the class, **review material** from a previous class, or simply get your students thinking in English, **moving around**, or awake. This activity should only take up a small portion of your lesson, **perhaps five minutes**.

Introduction

A good introduction will create a need for students to learn the material you are going to present and get them interested in the day's topic. This is the part of the lesson where the teacher does the most talking so try to get students involved and use choral repetition to keep students talking about half the time. Depending on how complex the topic is or how much new vocabulary there is, the introduction could take some time but in most cases, **about ten minutes should be sufficient**.

Practice

The practice activity would normally be about ten minutes and have students working individually or in pairs. Practicing model dialogues, completing worksheets, and doing short activities would be appropriate. This may take **about ten minutes** including going over the answers or having some demonstrations.

Production

In the production activity students should have to produce material on their own. Rather than reading sentences, perhaps they have to **answer questions** or make their own sentences. Longer activities such as board games, which can be played in groups, or activities for the whole class, where students work in teams, would be best. **The remaining class time can be devoted to this activity**.

Review

It is a good idea to plan **another five minute activity** that can be done at the end of class as a review or used as the warm up in the following lesson. If the production activity does not take up the remaining portion of the class period, you have a backup plan.
