

Improving your English verb patterns discussion and presentation with advice practice and learner training

Take turns saying that you have one of the problems below and giving advice on your partner's problems, starting with your real problems if possible.

Useful phrases for asking for advice
... What do you think I should do? ... Do you have any advice for me? ... What do you recommend that I should do?

Useful phrases for giving advice		
(In that case,)	I suggest...ing (...) I think you should... my advice is to... you could... I recommend...ing (...)	What do you think? Do you agree?

Useful phrases for responding to advice
I agree./ I think you're right./ Good idea. I'll try that.
Really?/ Do you think so? I think.../ I can see your point, but I would say...
Actually, I don't think that's (such) a good idea.

Language learning problems to ask for advice about

- I can't afford to study abroad.
- I agreed to take some foreign guests out for dinner.
- I want to avoid thinking in silence.
- I'm considering moving abroad.
- I'm thinking about getting a job where I need to use English.
- I've decided to study abroad at the beginning of next year.
- I've given up trying to improve my pronunciation because it doesn't seem to change.
- I hope to reach Advanced level as soon as possible.
- I want to learn to give a presentation in English.
- I promised to help my boss write a report.
- My company refuses to pay for my English lessons.
- I don't want to waste time learning vocabulary that isn't useful.
- I waste so much time rewriting my emails many times.
- I would like to make foreign friends.

Share a problem and the related advice you discussed with the class, and see what other people think about that advice and if they have any other ideas. Then make similar problems from the underlined parts above to ask each other for advice on.

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Ask about any which you couldn't give advice on, couldn't make your own problems with, etc.

Verb patterns grammar presentation

Without looking above, add “to + verb” or “verb + ing” to all the verbs below.

- afford
- agree
- avoid
- consider
- think about
- decide
- give up
- hope
- learn
- promise
- recommend
- refuse
- suggest
- waste time
- want
- would like

Check above.

Try to find patterns in the verb patterns above. Which ones have related meanings and the same grammar?