

# New Year's Resolutions



**1 Warm Up Work with a partner.**

- Did you make any New Year's resolutions?

**2 Conversation #1 Practice with a partner.**

**Scene: Jenny and Tom are talking about Christmas and New Year.**

Jenny So, did you have a good Christmas, <sup>1</sup> Tom?  
 Tom Yeah - <sup>2</sup> not bad. I <sup>3</sup> stayed with my parents in New York.  
 Jenny Really? What presents did you get?  
 Tom Let's see... I got <sup>4</sup> a sweater and some CDs.  
 Jenny Did you make any New Year's resolutions?  
 Tom Sure! I'm going to <sup>5</sup> join a gym, and lose weight!  
 Jenny I think you said that last year...

**3 Comprehension Ask and answer these questions with a partner:**

- 1) Did Tom have a good Christmas?
- 2) Who did he stay with?
- 3) What did he get for Christmas?
- 4) What are his New Year's resolutions?

**4 Language Check Fill in the blanks with a suitable verb. Be careful with the tense.**

- 1) Susie ..... a good Christmas.
- 2) Last year, I ..... weight.
- 3) I didn't ..... any New Year's resolutions.
- 4) Rob wants to ..... a gym next month.
- 5) I ..... some socks from my aunt for Christmas.

- join
- lose
- have
- get
- make

**5 Conversation #2 Use the cues below to have a conversation with a partner.**

**Will's Christmas**

- 2) great
- 3) went skiing in the Alps
- 4) an espresso maker
- 5) take up French

**Ed's Christmas**

- 2) it was alright
- 3) caught up on my reading
- 4) some socks from my mother
- 5) find a girlfriend

**Cathy's Christmas**

- 2) it was terrific
- 3) stayed with my family
- 4) some CDs and DVDs
- 5) learn to cook better

# New Year's Resolutions: Teaching Notes

<b>Target Structure:</b>	Mixed tenses - Past Simple, Future 'Going to'
<b>Vocabulary:</b>	Christmas and New Year
<b>Level:</b>	Elementary to Pre-Intermediate
<b>Time:</b>	30 minutes
<b>Preparation:</b>	None

## Suggested Teaching Method

This worksheet is a good mixer activity for the first lesson back after a Christmas / New Year break. It reviews common past simple and future 'going to' structures. It also has vocabulary and collocation practice.

- 1 Give one worksheet to each student. Elicit (or explain) the meaning of the title. Students should ask the opening question to their partner. Elicit a couple of answers from the group. If your students have lots to talk about, you could save this activity (or extend on it) at the end of the lesson.
- 2 Students should read the conversation in pairs, changing roles at the end. When the students read, encourage lots of intonation and eye contact.  
  
When finished, go through any vocabulary questions.
- 3 Students can work in pairs for this exercise.
- 4 This exercise reviews some of the verb / noun collocations found in the conversation. It can be made more challenging by asking students to cover the conversation in exercise two.
- 5 Students should first read speech bubbles. Check that the vocabulary / phrases are understood.

Demonstrate with a confident student, and then assign new pairs. Students need to substitute the underlined vocabulary in the conversation. They should practice all three conversations, and then change roles.

After finishing this exercise, students can move around the room practicing the conversations with other classmates. This time, however, they can give true answers. Demonstrate the exercise first. If your students are confident with the language, encourage follow-up 'wh-' questions.

## Answer Key (Other answers may be possible.)

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Yes, he did.</li> <li>2) He stayed with his parents.</li> <li>3) He got a sweater and some CDs.</li> <li>4) He is going to join a gym and lose weight.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Susie had a good Christmas.</li> <li>2) Last year, I lost weight.</li> <li>3) I didn't make any New Year's resolutions.</li> <li>4) Rob wants to join a gym next month.</li> <li>5) I got some socks from my Aunt for Christmas.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> |
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## Your Feedback



Have you taught this lesson? We would be pleased to hear some feedback.

Send your comments to [editor@handoutsonline.com](mailto:editor@handoutsonline.com).

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