B2 problem-solving scenarios

Choose a card. Both partners explore the situation, compare at least two possible actions and agree a next step. Invent any extra details together. These are classroom speaking tasks.

1. Keeping in touch A friend is travelling and replies less often than expected. Agree a practical way to keep in touch without expecting immediate replies.	**2. A new responsibility** You can lead a club project but are unsure whether to accept. Compare the experience you could gain with the time it would take.
3. A gap year A student is considering a gap year before further study. Compare learning, work experience and practical preparation.	**4. Changing direction** A student wants to change from one course to art. Identify what they should find out before deciding.
5. A difficult celebration You are invited to a close friend's celebration but do not get on with another guest. Agree a polite way to manage the day.	**6. An unexpected expense** A club's usual funding has stopped. Agree how to keep one activity running with a smaller budget.
7. Exercise on a budget You want to become more active but cannot pay for a gym. Compare free activities and choose a realistic first step.	**8. Unequal group work** One member of a project group is not doing the agreed tasks. Decide how to raise the issue and redistribute work fairly.
9. Moving away A new course or job would mean moving far from people close to you. Compare the opportunity with the practical challenges.	**10. A business idea** A friend wants the group to support a new small business. Decide what information you need before offering time or money.
11. A leaving present Someone in your group is moving abroad. Choose a useful present or shared experience within a small budget.	**12. Different party plans** Two friends want different kinds of celebration. Agree a plan that combines their priorities.
13. City or countryside A household is considering moving from a city to a smaller town. Compare transport, space and access to activities.	

Ask: What matters most? What could go wrong? Why is this the best next step?

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14. Unexpected news Your group has been offered a different venue at short notice. Decide what questions to ask before accepting it.	**15. A holiday compromise** One traveller wants sightseeing and another wants to relax. Agree a plan with time for both.
16. Keeping up with news Someone wants to stay informed without spending too much time on upsetting news. Compare ways of setting a manageable routine.	**17. Choosing a course** A student must choose between two courses with different costs and activities. Decide which details matter most.
18. A local producer A local farm wants to sell more of its products. Compare a market stall, deliveries and a partnership with a shop.	**19. A reunion** You want to contact friends you have not seen for years. Agree a simple first message and an affordable way to meet.
20. Recycling together People in a shared building use the recycling bins differently. Agree how to make the system clearer.	**21. A noisy night** An unfamiliar noise outside keeps disturbing someone's evening. Decide how to find out its cause and arrange a quieter routine.
22. Showing a talent Someone wants more chances to share a creative talent. Choose a realistic way to practise and reach a small audience.	**23. A change of group** A friend has joined a new club and you rarely see them. Decide how to discuss the change without criticising their new friends.
24. A tighter budget A group's regular outings have become too expensive. Compare cheaper alternatives and agree what matters most.	**25. An environmental first step** Your group wants to reduce waste. Choose one manageable action and decide how to check its effect.
26. Living somewhere new Someone wants to spend a few months in another country. Decide what to research and how to try the experience before making a longer commitment.	

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