

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ALCOHOL

A Grundtvig project

**SECOND CHANCE SCHOOL OF NEAPOLIS
THESSALONIKI, GREECE.**

**CLASS B
ENGLISH**

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JUNE, 2007

ROLE PLAY

The following activity was run during a five hour English lesson with the cooperation of the school psychologist. **Foteini Chatzika**

The aim of the activity was **to create awareness** on the importance of setting personal **boundaries** especially on such occasions when people try to impose on you harmful attitudes. The psychologist made a presentation on these issues, emphasized the importance of **assertive attitude** and guided the learners throughout the activity.

The activity was also designed as an English lesson with the aim to teach **suggesting, offering and refusing things. (why don't you, let's, shall we, you should, would you, I'll do it, how about e.t)**

Procedure

First there was an introduction on assertive attitude by Ms Chatzika. A discussion on the issue followed to make clear what the students were asked to do. The students were asked to work in groups of 2 or 3 to do the following task in Greek.

“You and your partners are either at a bar, a party or at home.

**He/she insists that you have a drink but you refuse.
When your friend insists that you drink, you should try and say no to drinking alcohol and mean it too. You must be assertive”**

Then the learners wrote and acted out the dialogues in Greek. Next, by brainstorming activities in English, several expressions we use to make suggestions came up and were written on the board.

The translation of the dialogues in English followed. The students used dictionaries. Finally the students made a list of the different reasons each used **to refuse** to drink. They are the following;

- ❖ I don't want to have a drink. I don't like drinking alcohol beverages.
- ❖ I'm driving and I never drink and drive.
- ❖ I'm very tired and alcohol will make me feel worse.
- ❖ I never drink with an empty stomach.
- ❖ Drinking makes me feel sick.

- ❖ I've already had enough. If I drink more I won't enjoy myself.
- ❖ I'm on medication. Drinking is not allowed.

Our next step was to watch a DVD on alcohol , created by **the Workshop of Communication , Media and Culture of Pantio University of Social and Political Studies of Thessaloniki.**

Its title is “**What counts in Entertainment**” and in digital and interactive environment offers useful information on alcohol consumption.

It aims to inform young adults **how to drink** and **how much to drink** in order to avoid causing any harms to their health and to others.

The learners enjoyed watching the DVD as the whole project was presented in an entertaining and attractive way and they learned about practical methods of how to handle alcohol consumption.

The process of the previous activities proved very interesting and we decided to think of some work of art that would be relevant to our theme. So we came up with the idea of reading and discussing a poem written by the famous Greek poet Cavafy. Here's the poem in both Greek and English.

Che fece il gran rifiuto

Σε μερικούς ανθρώπους έρχεται μια μέρα
που πρέπει το μεγάλο Ναι ή το μεγάλο το Οχι
να πούνε. Φανερώνεται αμέσως όποιος τόχει
έτοιμο μέσα του το Ναι, και λέγοντάς το πέρα

πηγαίνει στην τιμή και στην πεποίθησί του.
Ο αρνηθείς δεν μετανοιώνει. Αν ρωτιούνταν πάλι,
όχι θα ξαναέλεγε. Κι όμως τον καταβάλλει
εκείνο το όχι -- το σωστό -- εις όλην την ζωή του.

Κωνσταντίνος Π. Καβάφης (1901)

Che fece il gran rifiuto

To certain people there comes a day
when they must say the great Yes or the great No.
He who has the Yes ready within him
immediately reveals himself, and saying it he goes

against his honor and his own conviction.
He who refuses does not repent. Should he be asked again,
he would say no again. And yet that no --
the right no -- crushes him for the rest of his life.

Constantine P. Cavafy (1901)

Role play

You and your partner are either at a bar, a party or at home.

He/she insists that you have a drink but you refuse
You should try to say no to drinking alcohol and mean it too, when your friends insist that you drink. You must be assertive.

The following dialogues were written by the learners.

Two young friends at a party.

Nick: Hi Helen! You look a bit up tight. Why don't you have a drink to relax?

Helen. No, thanks. I've never had alcoholic drinks.

Nick. Really? Then you should try one.

Helen. I promised my parents that I won't drink and I always keep my promises.

Nick. Your parents wouldn't know about it. It will do you good. You'll feel cool.

Helen. No, thanks

Three young friends at a party.

Tasos. Sophia, would you have a drink with us?

Sophia. No, thanks. I don't drink. Alcohol gives me migraines.

Dimitris. Come on, don't be a party pooper.

Sophia. Oh, I'm afraid that if I drink I'll regret it afterwards.

Tasos. Have at least one shot of vodka!

Sophia. Can I have some pine apple juice?

Dimitris. Ok I'll order you a shot of pine apple vodka, then.

Sophia. OK. But if I don't feel well it will be your fault!

Two teenagers at a friend's home. The parents are not at home.

Maria. Let's have a drink. How about some whiskey?

Jenny. Are you nuts? We'll get sick.

Maria. How about something lighter? Some Gordon's space? OK?

Jenny. It's not O.K. Don't forget I rode my bike. I'd just like some juice.

Maria. I'll fix you a little vodka with a lot of juice.

Jenny. You can have a drink if you like. Not me!

Two friends at a bar.

Stella. Sevi, why don't you have another drink?

Sevi. One is enough for me.

Stella. Have one more to keep me company.

Sevi. I'll keep you company with some juice. Too much alcohol makes me sick.

Stella. One more drink will help you relax and feel better.

Sevi. You, yourself shouldn't have a drink. You know you drink too much!

Stella. I like to drink because it relaxes me.

Sevi. Why don't you try to relax by doing something more useful. Like reading a book.

Stella. You read a book! I'll have another drink.

Two friends at a bar.

Stavros. Despina, let me offer you a drink!

Despina. No, thanks. I've already had a glass of beer and I'm driving.

Stavros. Don't worry about driving. I can take you home.

Despina. I'm also on medication and alcohol is not allowed.

Stavros. Don't you know that a little alcohol is good for your health?

Despina. Besides when I drink I lose control of myself and I don't like it.

You should know Stavros, that when I say no, I mean no!

At a party near a river.

Aris. Maria, shall we have a drink?

Maria. No, thanks. I have a headache.

Aris. You should have a drink then. When I have a head ache I always drink and it helps.

Maria. I'm sorry but I don't want to feel worse than I'm now.

Aris. You are bad company, girl!

Maria. I think that I will feel much better if we just listen to music and dance.

Aris. Do as you please! You can find me at the bar if you want.