Are you a model student?

Level: B2 +

Age-group: teenagers/students

Topic: student life

Language focus: collocations, present continuous + adverbs of frequency

Skills focus: speaking, sentence writing

Suitable for: first lesson, motivating de-motivated students

Time: 60 minutes

Procedure

1. Ask the class about things they like and don't like about school/university.

- 2. Learners do the collocations quiz individually.
- 3. Go through the collocations as a class.
- 4. Learners quiz each other.
- 5. Learners do both role-plays, swapping roles so there is a total of four speaking tasks.
- 6. Explain the grammar point using the model sentence in the role-play and set up the writing activity.
- 7. Organise a class discussion about annoying habits. You could ask students to rank their top five or to vote on the most annoying.

Extension activity for vocabulary building

Learners could make their own quizzes in groups using collocations they have found in monolingual dictionaries.

1. Collocations quiz

Are you a model student?

- 1. You get home late and tired but you have an English essay to write. What do you do?
 - a) go to bed and hope this is all a bad dream
 - b) drink two cups of super-strong coffee and get to work
 - c) download a suitable text from the internet
- 2. What would be an ideal weekend for you?
 - a) not leaving your bed
 - b) spending some quality time in the library
 - c) earning some extra money so you can buy some trendy clothes
- 3. What kind of people do you always sit next to in class?
 - a) beautiful ones
 - b) ones who won't distract you too much
 - c) ones who know all the answers
- 4. You have a test tomorrow and you are in a panic. What do you do?
 - a) write all the answers on the back of your hand
 - b) stay up all night revising
 - c) soak in the bath and go to bed early
- 5. You get a bad mark in the test. How do you react?
 - a) feel relieved you haven't been kicked out of the university yet
 - b) study twice as hard in the future
 - c) complain bitterly to your teacher that the test was unfair
- 6. What is the best way to learn new vocabulary?
 - a) with close friends and a few beers
 - b) test yourself every evening
 - c) write new words on the wallpaper in your apartment
- 7. What kind of parties do you like?
 - a) wild parties where anything can happen
 - b) quiet gatherings of like-minded people
 - c) parties where the food and drink are free

Answers

Lots of As: You are the student from hell - I'm amazed you came today!

Lots of Bs: You are either a model student or a compulsive liar.

Lots of Cs: You have a practical approach and should do well.

2. Speaking role-plays

Α.	B.
You are a teacher. You want to ask your student why he/she has not been to class for three weeks.	You are a student. You have not been to class for three weeks because it has been difficult to get out of bed early. Your teacher wants to see you - think of a good excuse to tell him/her!
Α.	B.
You are a teacher. You have noticed that your student is always falling asleep in class. Speak to him / her about this.	You are a student. You often fall asleep in class because your teacher is so boring! Oh no, now your teacher wants to talk to you!

3. Grammar tip

You have noticed that your student is always falling asleep in class.

We use the present continuous and *always* or *constantly* to complain about bad habits and tendencies that annoy us.

Jane is constantly complaining!

It's always raining in Manchester!

Write down five things that annoy you about yourself, your teachers and friends.

1. I'm always losing my homewo	ork!
3	