

Teaching “Could It Happen to You,” an AIDS Awareness Unit

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The unit on the following pages may be used before or after an in-depth discussion of HIV and AIDS. The preparation homework should take students 10-30 minutes, depending on their level. The unit is designed to take approximately 90 minutes of class time. This unit should work with low intermediate to advanced students.

Homework

- ◆ Have students read “Yumi’s Story,” fill in the missing words, and complete the homework page before class.

In-Class

- ◆ The following order of activities is suggested for a 90 minute class.
- ◆ To help students keep the discussion in English, ask students to set an English usage goal before beginning the class activities for the day. Pausing after each activity to ask students how much English versus Japanese they have been using will help keep them on track.
- ◆ Ask students to discuss the “before you listen” questions with partners or in small groups.
- ◆ Ask students to listen for the answer to the “listening” as you read “Yumi’s Story” to students. (Ask students to turn over their own papers so they can’t read along.)
- ◆ Ask students to first try to answer the “talking about the story” questions without looking back at the story. After they have tried to answer all the questions, allow them to look back at the story to find the answers. At this time, they should check with a partner that they have correctly filled in the missing words.
- ◆ Review the grammatical structure in the “language point.” Then ask students to complete the “activity” by sharing their ideas about things it is safe to do with someone who has HIV they wrote down for homework.
- ◆ Have students act out the “role play” with a partner. Give A three minutes to explain her/his problem and convince student B to go get a blood test.
- ◆ Ask students to talk about the discussion questions with a partner or in small groups. Before asking students to talk about the discussion questions, you may wish to review the expressions for getting time to think. Ask students to first discuss the questions they prepared before using the questions on the handout.

Follow-Up

- ◆ If this unit was not preceded by a discussion of HIV and AIDS, and its prevention, it is strongly recommended for the topic of the next class.

HOMWORK PAGE

NEW WORDS & PHRASES

Read "Yumi's Story". Draw a circle around new words and underline new phrases. Write them here along with their meaning.

WORD/PHRASE

MEANING

pneumonia – a disease in your lungs/肺炎

BONUS

Read the list under "Yumi's Story". Make a list of TEN things it's safe to do with a friend who has HIV.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Write four "discussion" questions about AIDS. (No "yes/no" questions, please.)

1.

2.

3.

4.

YUMI'S STORY

Yumi is a 21-year-old college student in Saitama Prefecture. This is her story:

Fill in the missing words: drugs hope love sick test wonderful

My name is Yumi. I'm 21 years old. I am a college student in Saitama, Japan. I enjoy studying English and listening to British pop music. I also like shopping in Tokyo when I have the chance. Three months ago, my boyfriend and I went to Tokyo Disneyland together and had a _____ time.

My boyfriend, Yuki, is a great guy. We met our first year at this university—we were both in the same club, the university student chorus club. He and I fell in love on our first date. We have been together for two years and I still _____ him very much. Everything was perfect until two months ago.

What happened? Two months ago, Yuki became very _____. He suddenly got pneumonia and went into the hospital. They gave him many tests, including a blood test. The doctor told him he has HIV. She said he has to take a lot of different, expensive medicines many times every day. The medicine makes him feel sick. But it helps his body fight the HIV.

When I learned Yuki had HIV, I got a blood _____ too. I learned I also have HIV. I must also take medicines every day. But I feel very healthy. I look very healthy. No one knows I have HIV except my family and my best friend... and Yuki.

How did I get HIV? Well... Yuki and I didn't use condoms when we had sex. I thought I was safe since Yuki didn't have another girlfriend and he didn't use _____. After he got sick, Yuki called his only other girlfriend, whom he dated three years ago. She got a blood test too and she also has HIV. She doesn't know how she got it.

What am I going to do now? I am going to stay with my boyfriend and hope that we both stay healthy. And I will continue to _____ that one day soon, the doctors will find a cure.

HIV is the virus that causes AIDS. There are THREE ways you can catch HIV.

- ◆ You can get HIV though having sex without a condom... with someone who is infected with HIV.
- ◆ You can get HIV by sharing needles for drugs, tattoos or body piercing... with someone who HIV infected
- ◆ A baby can get HIV from her/his HIV-infected mother

More things you should know about people with HIV.

- ◆ It is safe to... hug, touch, hold hands, and kiss someone who is infected with HIV.
- ◆ It is safe to... be friends with someone who is infected with HIV.
- ◆ A person infected with HIV ...usually looks healthy.
- ◆ A person infected with HIV ...may stay healthy for many years.
- ◆ A person infected with HIV ...can give other people HIV only by having sex with them or sharing needles.

TODAY'S ENGLISH GOAL:

Today, I'd like to speak in English _____% of the time.

BEFORE YOU LISTEN:

- ◆ Is it okay to keep secrets from your boyfriend or girlfriend?
- ◆ If your boyfriend or girlfriend kept secrets from you, how would you feel? Why?
- ◆ Have you ever done something fun, but dangerous? What did you do?

LISTENING:

FIRST, listen to the passage without reading along. What is Yumi's problem?

a. Yumi is very sick. b. Yumi is angry at her boyfriend. c. Yumi and her boyfriend have HIV.

TALKING ABOUT THE STORY:

- ◆ What kind of person is Yumi?
- ◆ What are Yumi's interests?
- ◆ How did Yumi meet her boyfriend? How long had they been dating?
- ◆ What happened to Yumi's boyfriend? How?
- ◆ What happened to Yumi? How?
- ◆ If you were Yumi, what would you do? Why?

LANGUAGE POINT: *If my friend had HIV ..., we could still...*

If my friend had HIV, we could still go shopping together in Sakae.

verb

ACTIVITY

Share your ideas about things you could do with a friend who has HIV.

AMI: If my friend had HIV, we could still go to Tokyo Disneyland together.
What's your idea, Yuki?

YUKI: Well, um....

ROLE PLAY

Work with a partner. Flip a coin or play "Rock, scissors, paper." The winner has just learned s/he has HIV.
S/he must tell her/his boyfriend about the HIV and suggest that they go get a blood test right away.

Begin your conversation like this:

A: Hi Sweetie. Please sit down. We need to talk about something.

B: You look so serious. Is everything OK? Are you OK?

A: Yes and no. I'm OK now, but... well.... This is so difficult to say... um...

FOR DISCUSSION:

USEFUL ENGLISH: Getting Time to Think

Uh...

Um....

Well...

SHADOWING (repeat all or part of the question).

Let me see...

That's a difficult (interesting) question.

In your groups, talk about *the questions you wrote first*, then the questions below.

1. Where have you heard about AIDS? (TV, newspapers, teachers, family, friends...)
2. At what age do you think children need to learn about AIDS? Why?
3. Whose job is it to teach about AIDS?
4. What would you like to tell your younger brother(s) and/or sister(s) about AIDS?
5. What are some of the ways people can catch HIV? Do you think HIV is easy to catch or difficult?
6. What should people do to avoid catching HIV?
7. If you learned you had HIV, who would you tell? Why?
Who *wouldn't* you tell? Why not?
8. If your friend told you s/he had HIV, what would you do? Why?
9. If your boyfriend or girlfriend had HIV, what would you do? Why?
10. If someone in your family had HIV, what would you do? Why?
11. Do you think they will find a cure for HIV? Why?/Why not? How soon do you think they will find it?
12. Have you ever thought seriously about HIV and AIDS before today? How have your feelings about HIV and AIDS changed today?

DID YOU REACH YOUR GOAL FOR ENGLISH TODAY?