

Person of the 21st century – Teacher's notes

Level: Elementary (equivalent to CEF level A2)

Aim: Students create a biography, make an oral presentation of the biography to the class and vote for the Person of the 21st century.

Grammar: The present perfect simple.

Preparation: Photocopy Worksheet 1, one copy per pair. Photocopy Worksheet 2, one copy per student.

Procedure:

1. Start with some lead-in questions: Who is Jeff Bezos? Which magazine did he appear in? Why did he appear in this magazine? Can you name any other people who have appeared in previous years?
2. Give each pair a copy of Worksheet 1. Tell them that they have only a short time to read the article before they fold their paper (set a time limit, for example one minute). Students then fold the article along the dotted line.
3. In pairs students answer the questions on the article from memory. Conduct a brief feedback with the whole class.
4. Now give the students thinking time, tell them you are going to ask them a question but they must only think of their answer and not say it. Ask them who has had the biggest effect on the 21st century so far (the century has only just started but this is fun). Allow them a minute or two of silent time to think of their answer before they write the name on the worksheet.
5. Give each student a copy of Worksheet 2. Students complete the worksheet individually. This will give you an opportunity for some one-to-one teaching and feedback.
6. In small groups students make an oral presentation of their Person of the 21st century while the group listen. The listening task for the group is to listen to each presentation because they have to vote for one of the other personalities (not their own). Each student has one vote. Larger groups can be divided up into several smaller groups, for example five or six students.
7. When the presentations are finished each individual student votes for the Person of the 21st century. This can be done by secret ballot: students write their vote on a piece of paper and put it in a box.

Extra idea: For homework the students can read more about their personality or some of the others on www.wikipedia.org or other information websites.