

What Could I Do?



Level:

intermediate



Objectives:

the student will practice using past tense and past modals



Timing

20-30 minutes



Prep/

Materials:

embarrassing/ difficult situation cards

1. Start by giving one embarrassing/difficult situation card to your student.

These cards should contain situations such as:

- You took important guests to an expensive restaurant and when it was time to pay, you discovered you had no wallet.
- You borrowed your friend's car promising to return it in the evening, but you had an accident.
- Getting off the bus on the way to work, you ripped your pants.

2. Allow the student some time to read their cards and prepare to tell the incident as if it had happened to them and they are telling friends about it. Tell them that their stories should end with "What could I do?" or "I had no idea what to do." Demonstrate this by using a card and telling a story of your own.

3. Have your student tell their embarrassing, sad, or funny story, after which you should offer advice. Then tell your story (using another card) and ask your student for advice.



Breakdown:

Examples

- You could have offered to wash the dishes.
- You should have called home and asked the babysitter to send you your wallet by cab.

4. The student may respond how they'd like.

