



Open Discussion

LEVEL

Intermediate (B1)

NUMBER

EN_OD_B2_01

LANGUAGE

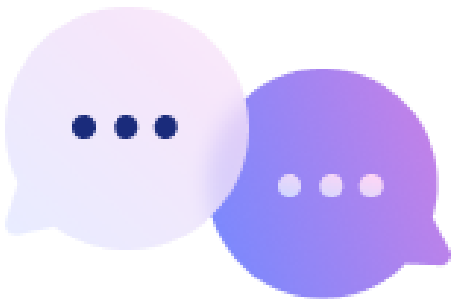
English

A conversation about... current affairs

In this lesson, you'll have the opportunity to review vocabulary and practise your conversational skills.

WARM-UP

- Is there a **difference** between news and current affairs?
- Share a **recent** piece of news you found interesting and briefly say why.



DISCUSS

Discuss **what's happening** around the world.

- Choose your own topic
- Live news exploration

WRAP-UP

- **Reflect** on the language used during the class.
- Did you learn any interesting **new words**?
- What will you **take away** from the discussion of current affairs?



Teacher Notes

1

STEP 1

Warm-up. Invite students to share a recent piece of news they found interesting.

2

STEP 2

Explain that today's class will focus on current affairs, with topics chosen by students and/or sourced live from news websites.

3

STEP 3

- **Part 1 Student-selected topics:** Students suggest current affair topics they are interested in. Facilitate a discussion, encouraging students to ask each other questions.
- **Part 2 Live news exploration:** Open some news websites live in class (check out the resources on p.4). Browse headlines together and select an articles to discuss, focusing on understanding the content, sharing opinions, and exploring different viewpoints.

4

STEP 4

Wrap up the class by having students briefly share what they learned or found interesting in today's class.



Discussion prompts

- *Environmental initiatives (local and global)*
- *Impact of technology on daily life*
- *Work-life balance and modern work culture*
- *Innovations in healthcare*
- *Cultural events and festivals around the world*
- *Impact of social media on society*
- *Global food trends and health*
- *Changes in education systems worldwide*
- *Sports and international competitions*
- *Art and music as tools for social change*

Teacher Notes

Here are some **further discussion questions** relating to the topic of current affairs.

Conversation starters

- Which recent international event has had the biggest impact on you?
- Do you think social media is a reliable source for current affairs?
- Can you name a global issue that you think is not getting enough attention in the media?
- How much does what's happening in the news influence your daily life?
- Have you ever changed your opinion about an issue because of the news?
- Are there any news topics that you find too difficult or uncomfortable to follow?
- Have you ever participated in an event or activity because of something you saw in the news? What was it?
- What was the most surprising news story you heard this week?
- Do you discuss current affairs with your family? What topics do you usually talk about?
- How do you think the news will change in the next 10 years?
- Is there a recent event that has had a positive impact on your community or country?
- Do you think celebrities should voice their opinions about current events? Why or why not?
- How does the news in your country compare to international news in terms of topics covered?
- Do you think it's important for young people to keep up with current affairs and news stories?



Resources:

[The Guardian International](#)
[BBC News](#)
[Al Jazeera](#)
[NPR](#)
[Reuters](#)