

# Communicative activities

## 1.1 When I was at school ...

1 Discuss the anecdotes below. Do you think these teachers and their way of teaching encouraged creativity in the pupils or not?

a

I clearly remember how I used to spend lots of afternoons with my class rehearsing the end of term play, making costumes and painting scenery. I think that's probably when my interest in the theatre really started.

b

We had a teacher who always made us learn poems off by heart. If we couldn't remember them word for word, she would make us write them out twenty times as a punishment. I still remember a few of the poems today.

c

Before they knocked down the sports building in the grounds, our art teacher held our lessons outside and we designed and painted a huge mural on one of the walls. Photos of the mural have recently been put up in the school hall.

d

My best friend and I were always hoping that it would rain on the day we had sports. Whenever it was raining, we were allowed to do extra art or woodwork lessons instead of going outside in the rain.

e

My class had been planning to paint our classroom. We knew what we wanted to do and were ready to start when our class teacher changed his mind and announced that plain white walls would be better for a classroom. So we painted them white.

2 Write a similar anecdote about your school time, your lessons and your teachers.

3 Work in small groups. Read and discuss your anecdotes. Use these questions to help you.

- Whose anecdote showed that they had creative teachers and lessons?
- With hindsight, whose teachers and lessons could have been more creative?
- Who has benefited in later life from the creativity that they were encouraged to use at school?
- If you could go back and talk to your teachers, what advice would you give them in order to help and encourage them to make their lessons more creative?

## 1.2 Talents and abilities for work

- 1** Make a list of 8–10 talents and abilities that would help someone succeed in your job or line of work. Compare your list with a partner's.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- 2** Complete these questions to create a survey based on your notes in Exercise 1. Add three further questions of your own.

	name	name	name	name	name
Have you ever needed to ...?					
Is it necessary to ...?					
Would it be useful to ...?					
Have you ever tried ...?					
Do you find it helpful to ...?					
Would it be advantageous to ...?					
Do people value ...?					

- 3** Interview your classmates and write their answers on the survey.

- 4** Evaluate your answers and report back to the class, e.g.

*Two in five people said ...*

*60% of respondees agreed that ...*

*It seems that the best person to take over my job would be ...*