

Wednesday: (this is a bit more frequent than the blighted “ Tuesday” in the Bank of English data base!- As a consequence I hope you enjoy today better than yesterday- wouldn't it be amazing if we had more Wednesdays to live than Tuesdays, just because the former is more frequently spoken and written than the latter!)

Dear Gang,

In the same way that using the written channel with you feels very worthwhile, so I feel that the one-to-one work can be very rewarding for both you individually and for me.

I am fiercely aware that, though people's learning is facilitated by group belonging and by life in the group, all learning is done individually. I need to get to know you individually and as members of the group.

I guess your timetable does not allow the luxury of working much on a one-to-one basis, and yet teenagers need this much more than adults do as they go through the crazy hall of mirrors that is adolescence. Or am I wrong and you do have programmed time to work one-on-one?

When you read this we will be at the mid-point of this short week. I guess some people will have a jumble of partly comprehensible notes and it is vital that you have very clear shapes of the exercises we have done. Some of you will have to train others in August and everybody will look back from September to June think “ Wow... is that time in Canterbury really two months ago...” Some may think “ We had a quite good time but, in practical terms, I can't remember a thing we did, not firmly enough to use in my classes. I must have been tired back in June.”

So we are going to take half an hour going back over the exercises you have done with Mina and with me. I want to do three things, working with a colleague:

- a) NAME each and every exercise we did
- b) Choose three that you really liked and decide WHY you entertained this feeling
- c) Choose three you would not use and state why they are not right in your context.

As you finish this reading, could you turn to a partner and start the review process.

Mario

ps: do you ever use the written word to give class room instructions? It can be quiet and quite powerful.