English Spotlight 1

Video Links for Middle School Year 1

Integrating Educational English Videos: A Comprehensive Approach

This curated series of videos provides support for year one (grade 7) teachers by addressing fundamental topics such as the alphabet, family vocabulary, classroom language, describing people, rooms of the house, time expressions, daily routines, and free time activities, all aligned with the "English Spotlight 1" curriculum. Each video is designed to enrich classroom learning through compelling content. Effective integration involves assessing the relevance and complexity of content, introducing key vocabulary using visual aids or concise lessons, generating interest with pre-viewing activities, promoting active engagement through note-taking and discussions, reinforcing learning with post-viewing exercises like role-plays and quizzes, incorporating video themes into subsequent lessons, and evaluating comprehension through diverse methods.

Important Notes about Using Videos

1. Though all videos presented in the table below are aligned with the English Spotlight 1 curriculum and considered appropriate for the age and level of middle school students, teachers are encouraged to preview the videos and ensure that they are appropriate for their specific learners.
2. It is also possible for teachers to select parts of videos that are best for their learners. If the content is useful and appropriate, but the length of the video is too long for your student group, select the portion of the video that you think is most suitable!
3. The videos are available online, which means they sometimes include an advertisement at the start. Please pre-set your video before class starts and DO NOT show ads to students.

Following the table of links below, a detailed video-activity structure is suggested to guide teachers in effectively planning and utilizing these instructional videos. Teachers might like to follow the sample to design their own activities.

Key:

Videos to use with students	Videos for teacher learning

Unit	Topic & Time	Link to video	Notes
Unit 1	Alphabet Chant 2 min.	Link	**The Alphabet Chant – Modern Rhythm** Uses high energy chant to teach the alphabet letters/pronunciation of the letters. This video includes

			American Sign Language, so students can also learn to sign the letters.
Unit 1	English Phonics Course (for teachers) 1h 34 min.	Link	**Introduction to Phonics for teachers** Teacher learn more about teaching phonics to improve students' reading in English.
Unit 1	What's Your Name? 1 min 54 seconds	Link	**What's your name game** Highly energetic middle-school aged students are featured in this video. Beat (song beat) is very modern.
Unit 1	Family 9 min.	Link	**Family vocabulary** A speaker introduces pictures with family vocabulary, pronounces it, and asks students to repeat At minute 6, the family vocabulary is extended (in laws, cousins, aunts, etc.)
Unit 1	Asking questions about family 9 min 32 sec	Link	**Questions about Family** A woman talks about questions you can ask in English. There are no visuals, but there are subtitles. The pace is slow. Independent learners may find the video useful. Includes 2 quizzes, one in the middle and one at the end.
Unit 1	Family 10 min 05 sec Core vocab from unit 2 min 45 sec	Link	**Family vocabulary** With visuals and movement, students learn the names of family members. Both a man and a woman pronounces each word. Though a long video, the first 2 min 45 seconds handle core vocabulary from the Spotlight 1 lesson.
Unit1	Introducing oneself 4 min 8 sec	Link	**Questions – Teens meeting someone for the first time** Features basic dialogs in which teenaged speakers ask and answer questions such as What's your name? Where are you from? The video is highly visual and the speaking pace is good for beginners. There are male and female speakers. Though there are 16 questions, teachers can choose which to focus on with students.
Unit 1	Learning Letter Sounds with Lyrics and Actions 3 min 42 sec.	Link	**Phonics – Sounds of the alphabet** A girl of between 10 and 12 years old sings a song and uses gestures to teach the sounds of the alphabet. Visuals in the video are very clear so helpful to learners.
Unit 1	Colors 1 min 33 sec.	Link	**Colors vocabulary** Highly visual video with colors and common items of that color. Pace is not too fast/slow. Images are very clear and engaging.
Unit 1	Describing People	Link	**Describing people**

	4 min. 13 sec.		Provides images and words of people's appearance. This is for expansion, if you have time to move around general vocabulary taught in the lesson (tall/short, big/thin, old/young). Includes appearance related to face, body, and general (beautiful, cute, etc.).
Unit 2	What a classroom looks like in 27 countries around the world 1 min 7 sec.	Link	**Images of Classrooms around the World** Cultural lesson showing different classrooms in different countries. Can be used as an engaging introduction to the unit, Lesson 5, or other lessons in the unit.
Unit 2	Classroom Language 4 min 18 sec	Link	**Classroom language** With cartoons of young teen learners, students hear useful classroom language. There are male and female speakers. (May I…, Can you repeat that please? I'm sorry I'm late, Etc.)
Unit 2	Count to 200 Song & Fun Exercise 7 min (but can stop at any number)	Link	**Big Numbers** This video helps students count to 200 in a fun way – integrating exercise (stepping in place, easy leg stretch, etc.). Video can be stopped at whatever number you want students to count to.
Unit 3	Rooms Of The House Song 🏠 2 min 12 sec	Link	**Rooms at Home – Modern Song Rhythm** Song features where family members are in a house. Teens sing with a modern rhythm. Male and female voices.
Unit 3	Beginner 2 English Course: Time Expressions 4 min 32 sec	Link	**Time of Day** In the morning, in the afternoon, etc. Male teacher explains the expressions, uses questions, and gives example sentences. Note: This is a longer video but the first part deals with times of day, in alignment with Unit 3.
Unit 3	After School Activities ESL **Game** 6 min 32 sec.	Link	**After school activities and revision of days** This is a game. Students watch a cartoon and choose the right after school activity from three choices.
Unit 3	Talking About Daily Routines in English Conversations 5 min./14 min 38 sec.	Link	**Daily Routines** 00-5 min: Students listen to two young adults complain about their daily routines. Vocabulary from the lesson is recycled but there is extra language. Visuals help make meaning clear. 5 min onwards – more discussion about routines but with somewhat higher language. Good for students with more advanced skills. Check out the interesting conversation about Phone addiction!
Unit 4	Guess what room it is!	Link	**Home and rooms : dining room, kitchen, etc.**

	3 min 29 sec.		Items appear one by one in a room. Students try to guess the room before the last picture.
Unit 4	How to use time expressions with 'in', 'on' and 'at' 3 min	Link	**Prepositions : In, on, at , etc.** Teachers can make use of this short activity to introduce in/at/on. The video presents a dialog with in/at/on and then a man and woman explain why each is used. Video segment starts at 3 min 31 sec.
Unit 4	Household Chores 4 min	Link	**Chores around the house** A woman is in her real house. Through the video, she shows the chores she has to do. Recycles vocabulary from the student book.
Unit 5	What do you do in your free time? 11 min	Link	**Free time and leisure activities** Through real video footage of activities (go camping, go fishing, go swimming, etc), vocabulary is presented. It is then used in a sentence that links to the video footage (I go fishing at weekends). Subtitles are included. Teachers can choose which video segments to use as they are clearly marked.
Unit 5	Free Time Activities in English 5 min	Link	**Popular Activities in the US and UK** Cultural lesson with free time, do sports, go swimming, do Karate, use of gerund (I like cooking), etc.
Unit 5	English for Beginners: Likes and Dislikes 1 min 25 sec	Link	**Talk about Likes and Dislikes/Asking Follow-up Questions** Through a simple cartoon, teenage characters ask and answer questions about what they like to do in their free time. Visuals make meaning clear.
Unit 5	Likes and Dislikes ESL 3 min.	Link	**Asking and answering questions : Do you like …..?** For recycling vocabulary Through an animated video, characters ask and answer Yes/No questions about likes and dislikes.
Unit 5	Talking about Hobbies and Free Time Activities 5 min.	Link	**Asking and answering questions about free time activities** In an animated video, teens talk about their activities. Though vocabulary is familiar, some structures have not been introduced. A video for slightly more advanced learners.
Unit 6	Months of the Year Song **3 min 48 sec.**	Link	**Song for beginners and for revision of months of the year** Song with more traditional rhythm. Video includes sing along so that students can practice.
Unit 6	Ordinal Numbers 5 min 25 seconds	Bing Videos	**Ordinal Numbers** Through an animal race, students learn ordinal numbers. This is a cartoon video that may appeal to younger learners.

Unit 6	Seasons of the Year- Song	Link	**Seasons of the Year** Song helps students remember the seasons and things we do in each season. Video uses real footage of the seasons.
Unit 6	What are they doing? Present Continuous Tense 5 min 48 sec	Link	**Present Continuous – What a family is doing around the house** This animated video uses visuals and audio to show what a family is doing around the house, what teen students are doing in a school, and on a field trip to the forest.
Unit 6	Time Expressions in English You MUST Learn! 4 min 53 sec	Link	Useful Time Expressions Through video animation, students see and hear conversations that use real-world expressions (I'll be there in a minute. I'll see you tonight. Etc.). Do it many times. It's helpful for recycling time expressions and get familiar with use in real-world situations.
Unit 6	What Did You Do? Simple Past Tense	Link	**Simple Past about the Weekend** Very beautiful video to present or recycle the use of the present continuous. Characters are teen boys and girls so appealing to middle school learners.
Unit 6	How's The Weather? | Song 2 min 7 sec	Link	**How's the Weather Song** Asking and answering questions about the weather/ adjectives; sunny, rainy, cloudy, snowy.
Unit 6	Inventions/Past Tense 2 min 50 sec	Link	Inventions: Who invented....? The video presents questions and gives answers about who invented common items. A great review of vocabulary and past tense in context. This video may be used as a game for students who are familiar with some inventors.
Unit 6	Clothes Quiz 2 min 18 sec	Link	**Clothes** Preview, review/ presentation of most familiar clothes items The video presents a hidden clothing item and removes parts to reveal the clothing item. Students can guess or you can use it to teach the words.
Teachers	Strategies for Managing Large Classes 57 min	Link	**Managing Large Classes** Presented by American English Live, this video provides tips on how teachers can manage interactive activities with large classes. Teachers may find this a useful video for implementing games and activities recommended in the English Spotlight series.

Video-viewing Activity Structure

Teacher Preparation and Planning

Before using a video in the classroom, the teacher should prepare for the activity by:

- Selecting a video based on its relevance to the current and upcoming units and lessons.
- Watching the video to assess its content, difficulty level, relevance, and values conveyed.
- Identifying key vocabulary, challenging phrasal verbs, expressions, or collocations.
- Determining what part of the video to use. Remember that at the early stage of language learning, videos of 1-3 minutes are usually ideal.
- Designing charts, questions, and tasks for both the while-viewing and post-viewing phases.

In-Class Activities

Before students watch the video, it's important to present or revisit key vocabulary and activate their prior knowledge about the topic. This preparation enhances their understanding:

- **Introducing or Revisiting Key Vocabulary:**
  - Share the objective to help students anticipate what they will view, if appropriate.
  - Write key terms or vocabulary items on the board and use visual aids or flashcards.
  - Provide definitions and highlight concepts and context as needed.
  - Review collocations and other language components for better comprehension.
- **Activating Prior Knowledge:** Activating prior knowledge helps learners connect new information to existing knowledge, enhancing comprehension and engagement. It supports critical thinking by encouraging students to reflect on their experiences:
  - Ask open-ended questions. For instance, if the topic is climate change, initiate discussion with questions like "What do you know about climate change?" or "How does it affect our lives?" Capture responses on the board to guide further exploration.
  - Use visual stimuli. Show still images from the video or use flashcards to prompt discussion and predictions. Visual aids engage students and help them visualize concepts related to climate change.
  - Provide a brief overview. Give a concise summary of the video's topic using cues to activate anticipation and curiosity. For beginners, consider a matching exercise or chart to reinforce understanding and prepare them for the video content.
  - Encourage discussion. Prompt students to share predictions about what they will see and learn in the video, encouraging active participation and focused viewing.
  - Highlight key points. Emphasize specific aspects or themes that students should pay attention to during the video to keep them engaged and focused.

By following these steps, teachers can effectively activate students' prior knowledge, foster discussion, and prepare them for meaningful learning experiences while watching the video.

While-Viewing Activities

During this phase of the lesson, after the previewing activities, proceed as follows:

- Provide charts or worksheets for students to fill out during the video, focusing on key vocabulary, main ideas, and specific questions.
- Play the video in segments, pausing periodically to discuss content and ensure comprehension.
- Ask guiding questions such as "What just happened?" or "What do you think will happen next?" to stimulate critical thinking. Make students are on task.
- Encourage students to take notes on important points or new vocabulary as they watch, using the board for emphasis.
- Use true/false or multiple-choice questions during pauses to actively engage students and reinforce understanding.

Post-Viewing Activities

Following the viewing activities, assess comprehension while students share ideas and key learnings. Consider the following activities:

- Discuss the video's content. Facilitate student sharing of viewing guide/chart answers or questions and clarify key points. Depending on time, have students repeat segments of the video or practice pronunciation in chorus.
- Role-play scenes from the video using new vocabulary and expressions.
- Write a summary or personal response to the video. Encourage sharing insights and discuss moral lessons, relating them to students' lives.
- Create a quiz or organize a game (e.g., vocabulary bingo) to reinforce learning, incorporating grammatical structures, functions, or other aspects.
- Invite students to review the video at home and acknowledge their efforts to make the lesson productive.

Teachers should integrate the video's vocabulary and themes into future lessons, projects, and assessments for continuity and relevance. Regular assessment and feedback are crucial for gauging understanding and improving learning outcomes across Grade 7, enhancing student engagement, and maximizing the video's educational impact.