

Teacher's Notes

Level	Pre-Intermediate +
Lesson Aims	Learners will develop speaking (for fluency), listening (for gist), and writing (for fluency) skills.
Approximate Timing	45-60 mins
Notes to the teacher	<p>World UFO (Unidentified Flying Object) Day takes place either late June or early July and commemorates either the first supposed sighting of a UFO OR the supposed UFO crash near Roswell, NM in 1947.</p> <p>This lesson is not directly related to World UFO day but it is based on a Pixar short, "Lifted", which is one of many good Pixar shorts for use in the classroom. As the name would suggest, they're short—many are five minutes or less—and often have very little or no speaking, so they can be used for student narration, role playing, dialogue writing and many other activities. Most can be found on YouTube.</p> <p>Enjoy and Happy UFO Day! (July 2nd)</p>
Video Link	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LVL0c6FrLi0



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- * Teacher draws/shows a picture of an alien on the board; elicits "alien" and "UFO". Teacher asks students to think of their favorite "alien" movie and share with a partner for a minute.
- *During feedback, elicit why these movie aliens come to Earth—what are they generally trying to do? This will help to activate your learners' background knowledge (schemata).

An Alien in Training: International UFO Day
A Seasonal Lesson Plan by *Thea Micoli*
www.TeachingHouse.com

* Tell students they are going to watch a short movie about aliens. Before watching the movie, you might need to pre-teach some vocabulary – for example:



Control panel
Steering wheel
Beam of light



All pictures copyright Pixar

* In pairs, they will each watch half the movie. The student (Student B) who is not watching the movie (eyes closed or back to screen) will listen to the other student (Student A) narrate what is going on in the movie. There are some sounds, but there is no talking, so the person who is watching will have to describe all the action. They will switch halfway through.

Tell them also to think about the question “why have these aliens come to Earth?”

*Start the video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LVL0c6FrLi0> and pause it at 2:10 so that the pairs can switch positions.

*Do a quick feedback on the gist task (why have the aliens come to Earth?) Elicit/teach “abduct”.

*Repeat the task: watch it again, this time with Student B narrating the first part and Student A the second part. They can add to their notes and say how good their partner’s description was the first time.

*Students should now work alone to produce a written version of the movie plot. Start them off by writing the first sentence up on the board: “It is night, and a man is sleeping in his bed.” They write the rest.

*If you would like a language focus, elicit what structures they will use in their writing (mixture of present simple/progressive OR past simple/progressive). You may also want to focus now or after they write on modal verbs, as these will likely come up (the alien trainee **can’t** get the man through the window, the alien trainer **won’t** help him, etc.) and linkers like “then” “after that” “suddenly”, etc.

*After students have written their versions have them trade with another pair to compare responses. They could edit each other’s work for:

- Accuracy of content
- Use of descriptive language
- Language errors

*Finish with a focus on any errors or good language you noticed while monitoring.

