Lesson 19 – Generation gap
Lesson 19. Generation Gap

Learning Objectives

After this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Define generation gap.
2. Differentiate different generations today.
3. Discuss the impact of different generation in life and in the work place.
4. Use present perfect tense in describing trends.
5. Recite correctly commonly mispronounced words in English.
Lesson 19. Generation Gap

Can you name these things and tell how they have evolved?

1. Cassette tape
2. Overhead projector
3. Film roll
4. Computer scanner
5. CD player
6. Floppy disk
7. Walkman
8. Typewriter
Lesson 19. Generation Gap

In a nutshell

Generation gap is a difference in values and attitudes between one generation and another, especially between young people and their parents. These differences stem from older and younger people not understanding each other because of their differences in experiences, opinions, habits, and behavior.

Ponder this!

What differences do you think you have with the older generation of your family?
Lesson 19. Generation Gap

Generation Gaps in the Workplace

The Generation gap is a term popularized in the West during the 1960s, a time when a gulf between young people and their parents opened up. These differences extended to music, fashion, and politics. Being aware of generational differences can help you anticipate miscommunications and avoid problems in the workplace and in social settings.

Experts say you should keep in mind these patterns when communicating across generations:

- **Traditionalists** (born 1922-1943) These workers place a lot of value on formality and the top-down chain of command. Respect is also important. Traditionalists appreciate formal titles instead of first names and scheduling meetings rather than have colleagues drop in.

- **Baby boomers** (born 1943-1960) Baby boomers are the largest generation of workers and they are generally willing to sacrifice for success. Recognition is important to boomers and they prefer more personable communication. They also value respect and order.

- **Generation X** (born 1960-1980) A higher divorce rate combined with an increase in working mothers meant many Xers grew up being alone often. Xers tend to be skeptical, highly individual workers who value a work/life balance. Most would rather be rewarded with extra time off than a promotion.

- **Millenials** (born 1980-2002) Raised by young boomers and older Xers, the first members of this group are just entering the workforce. Millenials are highly collaborative and optimistic. They share Xers' emphasis on work/life balance and are the most comfortable using new technologies.
Lesson 19. Generation Gap

Decide whether the following statements are True or False.

1. The Generation gap is a term popularized in the West during the 1940s.  
2. Experts say that it’s okay not to keep in mind the different patterns of generations.  
3. Traditionalists appreciate formal titles instead of first names.  
4. Baby Boomers and Traditionalists are the largest generation of workers.  
5. Both Baby Boomers and Traditionalists value respect.  
6. Generation X has a high rate of divorce and value work/life balance.  
7. Generation X prefer promotion than a time off.  
8. Millennials are highly collaborative and pessimistic.

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Free Response:

- Which generation do you belong?  
- Do you agree with what the article say about your generation?  
- Do you sometimes feel the gap in generations in your workplace?  
- How can we bridge the gap between generations?
Lesson 19. Generation Gap

Present Perfect
We use the present perfect to say that an action happened at an unspecified time before now. The exact time is not important. Here are some of the uses of Present perfect.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uses</th>
<th>Examples</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Life Experiences</td>
<td>I have never studied Japanese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes over time</td>
<td>My English has really improved since I moved to Australia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accomplishments</td>
<td>Doctors have cured many deadly diseases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration From the Past Until Now</td>
<td>Mary has loved chocolate since she was a little girl.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that:
We CAN use the present perfect with unspecific expressions such as: ever, never, once, many times, several times, before, so far, already, yet, etc.
REMAIN or CHANGE: Discuss the things that have changed or have been going on in the last 10 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>What has been the changes in the last 10 years?</th>
<th>What has remained the same in the last 10 years?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English language <em>has evolved</em> overtime. Many new slang terms like these appearing in the English language</td>
<td>English <em>has remained</em> the universal language in the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eating out</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Movies</td>
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<td>Music</td>
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<td>Travelling</td>
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<td>Dating</td>
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<td>Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shopping</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vocabulary: Change Helping Verbs
- transform
- shift
- adapt
- vary
- switch
- develop
- evolve
- progress
Lesson 19. Generation Gap

Today, the traditional career ladder is less important as the younger generation of workers places more emphasis on issues such as work-life balance and job satisfaction. These are considered more important than job titles. As such, positions of authority are no longer a given as you get older. And knowledge of tech, social media, and “soft skills” have become base requirements for many senior roles.

Your Top Tips on How to Bridge the Generation Gap

1. It’s Not a Competition
2. Gain Perspective
3. Develop Mutual Respect
4. Learn From Each Generation

Source: https://www.mindtools.com/blog/bridging-generation-gap-top-tips/
Lesson 19. Generation Gap

1. Are your friends mostly the same age as you are, older or younger? Why?
2. Have you experienced the moment when you say "now I understand my mum/dad"? When was it? How old were you?
3. Do you ever disagree with your friends/parents or sisters and brothers on music, fashion or values?
4. Do you think generation gaps allow the older generations to have more "authority" in their relationships with younger people?
5. How do you compare your generation with the previous one and the next one?
6. Is technology making the generation gap bigger or smaller? How?
7. What do you think are some of the advantages or disadvantages of another generation?
8. What roll does music play in generation gaps?
9. Do you think it is OK to date or marry someone of a different generation to yourself, either older or younger?
10. When is an age gap beneficial, and when is it a hindrance?
11. What can you learn from the younger and older generations?
12. What can you teach to the younger and older generations?
Lesson 19. Generation Gap

Commonly Mispronounced words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Incorrect Pronunciation</th>
<th>Correct Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>accessory</td>
<td>ass-ess-or-y</td>
<td>ak-sess-or-y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>federal</td>
<td>fed-ral</td>
<td>fed-er-al</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>heinous</td>
<td>hee-ni-us</td>
<td>hey-nuh-s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>drowned</td>
<td>drown-ded</td>
<td>drownd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>february</td>
<td>feb-yoo-air-y</td>
<td>feb-roo-air-y</td>
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<tr>
<td>height</td>
<td>hate</td>
<td>hite</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The End