

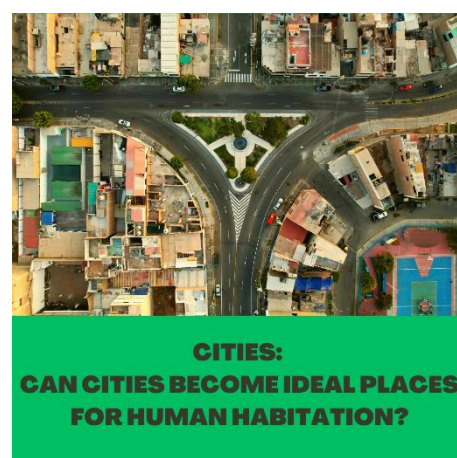
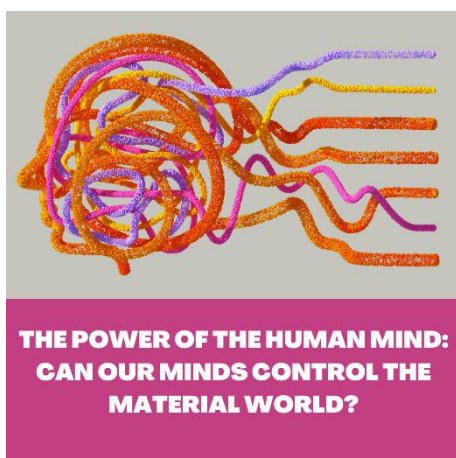
UNIT 4: SOMETHING TO SAY LESSON 1: CHOOSING THE CLASS

Lesson aims:

- Express and understand an opinion about a presentation or class topic
- Use and understand superlative adjectives
- Make recommendations about classes based on interest
- Read academic/professional profiles to use this information
- Express a choice in writing

Lead-in

1. *Imagine you have the chance to go to a **conference**. Rank the presentations below from first to last choice, according to your preferences.*



PREFERENCE RANKING	PRESENTATION TITLE
	The Power of the Human Mind: Can our minds control the material world?
	High Speed Rail: Do high-speed trains have a future in Chile?
	Cities: Can cities become ideal places for human habitation?
	Chemistry in our Daily Lives: Do people really understand their relationship with chemicals?
	Toothpaste: It really is magic in a tube!

2. Now, compare your choices with a partner. Are they similar or different?

Grammar: Superlative Adjectives

When you compare three or more things, you use the superlative form of the adjective.

SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES	
SHORT ADJECTIVES ↑ + -est	LONG ADJECTIVES ↑ most + adjective
hot > hottest <i>High speed rail is the hottest topic of the moment.</i>	complicated > most complicated <i>Chemistry in our Daily Lives is the most complicated topic.</i>
easy > easiest <i>Which presentation is the easiest to understand?</i>	interesting > most interesting <i>The Power of the Human Mind is the most interesting presentation to me.</i>
ANY ADJECTIVE ↓ least + adjective	
interesting > least interesting <i>Toothpaste is the least interesting presentation to me.</i>	
IRREGULAR FORMS	
good > best	
bad > worst	

Speaking

1. Consider the presentation topics in the lead-in. Decide with a partner, which topic is...

- the most interesting
- the least serious
- the most boring
- the least useful for you
- the hardest to understand

2. Then, compare with another pair. Are there differences?

Reading - Critical Thinking

1. Read these short profiles of these students. Then, read the short description of the elective classes. Tell a partner which class is the best option for which student. Explain your reasons.

Leilani Akana	Reza Azad	Carolina Nin
She is studying at the Visual Arts School, and her focus is on photography. She is very interested in photographing faces. She thinks that the way light and shadow fall on the face are fascinating.	His major is physics. He is in his third year, and he would like to take a class about something different. He wants to learn something that is not directly connected to his major because he wants more complete knowledge about the world.	She is in her second year of medical studies. She is very interested in the topic of health versus illness. She already did all her introductory level courses, and she would like to take a course that looks at diseases.

ELECTIVE COURSES	
BIO 620- Infectious Diseases	HBS 112- Anatomy of the Human Head
This course is an introduction to human host pathogen interactions and microbial pathogenesis. Topics will focus on mechanisms of infectious disease transmission, the immune response to these infections, conventional and alternative antimicrobial treatment, and hot topics in current scientific literature.	This course aims at providing students with a strong understanding of head anatomy with emphasis on those structures associated with the face. The course focuses on the anatomy, design and function of structures in the head as they pertain to facial construction.
Instructor: Bruno Nichols	Instructor: Mary Castle

ANTH 115- Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	LING 259- Advanced Semantics
In this course, we will systematically explore topics such as technology and material culture, social organization, economies, political and legal systems, language, ideologies and religions, health and illness, and social change.	This course is an advanced exploration of theories relating to the meaning and application of language use while considering contextual factors. Semantics 258 is a prerequisite for taking this course.
Instructor: Heather Locklear	Instructor: Ricardo Sanz

2. Write down your elective class recommendations for these students. Try using these expressions in your recommendations: should / the best / because

	SHOULD	THE BEST	BECAUSE
Leilani Akana			
Reza Azad			
Carolina Nin			

Listening

1. Listen to Leilani, Reza, and Carolina talk about their experience in the elective class. Do they recommend the class? Write “yes” or “no”:

	Does this person recommend the class?
Leilani	
Reza	
Carolina	

2. Listen again. Write down their reasons for recommending or not recommending the class.

	Reasons and details
Leilani Akana	
Reza Azad	
Carolina Nin	

Working with a text

1. Here is a transcript of what Leilani said about her class. Complete the spaces in the text with the words below.

teacher	information	topic	was	learn
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I took Anatomy of the Human Head with Dr. Castle. The class was amazing. I learned so much. I think it the best class ever! Well, it certainly was one of the best. Dr. Castle was so passionate about the, and she knew so much. She was also a great teacher. She was very patient. She also was very funny... She was the funniest teacher I ever had. The class was hard and full of, so having moments of laughing was great. The only bad thing... and this is not a very bad thing... was that you had to read a lot in this class. If you want to a lot from a wonderful, take this class!

Final Lesson Task

1. There are various candidates for a guest professor post. Read their bios and proposals and make your choice. Discuss your opinions of these candidates with classmates. Explain your reasons.

NEW GUEST PROFESSOR POST FOR THE NEXT SEMESTER!

Our university is looking for an interesting candidate for our guest professor post in the area of “Urban Studies”. The guest professor will teach a special elective class on their particular area of specialization.

We have three candidates for this post. We would like our university community to participate in the selection process. Please read the three bios and make your choice. Explain your decision in the following space. Tell us who you choose and why you choose this candidate.

CANDIDATE 1	
Name	Elison Menéndez
Occupation	Professor of Urban Policy and Planning
Place of work	Hunter College
Research focus	Puerto Rico, economic development, labor markets
Achievements	Almost 100 published academic papers
Top publications	State of Puerto Ricans (Paloma Press, 2016) Puerto Ricans in the New Millennium (Centro Press, 2015)
Awards	Association of University Schools of Planning 2019 Gold Award
Personal statement	<i>I advocate for combining urban planning with economic development and the reduction of poverty.</i>

CANDIDATE 2	
Name	Norman Chu
Occupation	Professor of Urban Health Policy
Place of work	New York Academy of Medicine and National University
Research focus	Urban health, immigrant communities and the role of community institutions
Achievements	A 5-year study funded by the National Institutes of Health on Asian immigrant institutions and their role in disease prevention
Awards	Health Research Journal Person-of-the-Year Award, 2022
Personal statement	<i>Good urban planning and community involvement have an important impact on people's health.</i>

CANDIDATE 3	
Name	Dr. Alicia Sánchez
Occupation	Professor of Mexican History
Place of work	National University of Mexico
Research focus	Urban development, law and society, crime and justice, city organization, development of Mexico City in particular
Achievements	Advisor to the “Consejo Urbano de México” (Urban Advisory Board of Mexico)
Top publications	Living in the Mexican City (Florida University Press, 2011) The City Reader –coeditor (Green Press, 2016)
Awards	Polisser Prize for Writing (2019)
Personal statement	<i>I want to explore the social, cultural, and legal history of the urban nighttime of Mexico City during the nineteenth century.</i>

2. Write your choice below and explain your reasons. Try to use our target language:

- Superlatives (the best, the most interesting, the most impressive, etc.)
- Recommendation language (should)
- Connectors (and, but, because, so)

Exit Ticket

Can you do these things?

	I can express an opinion about a presentation or class topic.	1	
	I can express ideas using superlative adjectives.	2	
	I can make recommendations based on students' interests.	3	
	I can express my choice in written text form.	4	
		5	

My Top 5 Words from this lesson:

Homework: Self-study

[90 minutes per week]

1. **IMPORTANT**: Read and study the Final Lesson Task **bios** for next class.
2. **Extra practice** (online): Superlative adjectives



<https://test-english.com/grammar-points/a1/superlative-adjectives/>

Transcripts

LISTENING – TRANSCRIPT

Leilani: I took Anatomy of the Human Head with Dr. Castle. The class was amazing. I learned so much. I think it was the best class ever! Well, it certainly was one of the best. Dr. Castle was so passionate about the topic, and she knew so much. She was also a great teacher. She was very patient. She also was very funny... She was the funniest teacher I ever had. The class was hard and full of information, so having moments of laughing was great. The only bad thing... and this is not a very bad thing... was that you had to read a lot in this class. If you want to learn a lot from a wonderful teacher, take this class!

Reza: I decided to take an elective last semester, so I took Cultural Anthropology. I thought this was going to be a very interesting subject. Oh boy... I was very, very wrong. The class was terrible. It was the worst class I ever took. Really. The reading list was chaotic, and the teacher was a mix of boring and unprepared. I think the teacher was Dr. Locklear. Sometimes, she just read from a textbook to us... for 30 minutes. Students stopped going to class. Near the end of the semester, there were maybe 5 students present in class. This really was the worst academic experience in my life. There was nothing positive about this class. Don't waste your time with this class.

Carolina: My option was infectious diseases. What a fascinating class! Of course, I'm studying medicine and want to be a doctor, so this subject was perfect for me. The professor was Bruno Nichols. He is a very dedicated and wonderful teacher. He's one of the best teachers in my experience. The subject is complicated, and you should have a medical background. You should definitely know a lot of biology. It will be a very hard subject for other students. So, I recommend this course for people with a medical or biology background.