

### PRE-TASK

Give the students the following photos and ask them to find out how they are related.

(Scroll down to find the flashcards)



After the students have concluded that they are elements of a party (venue and decoration / food and drinks/music and dress code) they list them from the most important to the least important element of a party.

Then, students brainstorm vocabulary related to these categories but you can also help them with any lexical gaps by providing topic related vocabulary. All the new vocabulary is written on the board (mind maps)

Feedback

### TASK CYCLE

#### Task

Ask the students to work in groups and come up with a proposal regarding the organization of the school's Christmas party. They need to discuss all the above elements of a party (venue and decoration, food and drinks, music and dress code). Encourage participation and provide any pieces of language that the students might be missing.

#### Planning

Ask students to organize their ideas and think how they are going to justify and explain their choices to the other students. At this stage ask the students to try and polish their language in preparation for the report that follows.

#### Report

All groups present their reports orally and compare theirs to the others. Students decide on the best report to pass on to the school director in order to organize the Christmas party.

## LANGUAGE FOCUS

(Focus on language items that students seemed to have problems with. This lesson plan focuses on phrases to express an opinion and party collocations)

### Analysis

A. Read an ideal model and ask the students to compare it and contrast it with theirs.

(Scroll down to find a model)

Feedback

B. Ask the students to decide the function of the underline expressions on the model.

E.g.: 1. What do they express?

2. Are they formal or informal?

3. Have you used any of these in your reports?

C. The students are asked to find the words in **bold** and underline the words before them.

It's also useful to point out that all the words in bold are nouns. For example, *dance* and *tastes* are both nouns here, something students might find confusing.

So, since the words in bold are nouns, the words before them are probably adjectives or verbs.

They are also asked to think of more words that might collocate with them

Spend more time on the collocations that students find hard or unusual and ask them to come up with more examples in order to check understanding.

### Practice

Students work in pairs (ideally with someone from a different group) and help their partner organize a Christmas dinner party for a friend/relative etc.

Feedback

Note: In task-based learning students work on their own pace, so the above lesson plan might take 2 or even 3 lessons to be completed depending on the students.





Christmas is just around the corner and I believe that planning well in advance can guarantee the success of your party. **Throwing a party** sometimes feels hopelessly complicated and stressful but it's not. In my experience, it's easier to start off by finding and setting up the venue. Lots of pubs, clubs or even galleries can **host your party** and also take over the party decoration. However, if you ask me, there's nothing better than putting your own signature on the decoration. Sparkling baubles hung from the ceiling will instantly take over as the focal point of your party. Cinnamon and pine scented candles can also be a great **party prop**. Once you have arranged the venue, it's time to start thinking about your guests' entertainment. A DJ that caters for all **music tastes** can make sure that your guests will **get into the mood** from very early on and even those who are shy can **have a little dance**. I'd also like to point out the importance of a **wide variety** of **food options** to fuel your guests for a long night of festive fun. Guests can help themselves from **finger food** and party nibbles to **festive feasts**. Drinks also add to the **Christmas spirit** and the choices can vary from **bottled drinks** to classic cocktails and chilled champagne. Last but not least, consider your looks on that special day without **going over budget** in your favourite boutique. What I mean is to opt for something festive and maybe add a little bit of sparkle to your **party outfit**. People will be taking pictures and you want to look fab!