PDF 2 - Lifelong Learning & Future Skills.



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE / SUSTAINABILITY

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1. Soft Skills vs. Hard Skills - Look at the skills below. With your partner:

1. Mark each one **H** (Hard/Technical Skill) or **S** (Soft/People Skill).
2. Choose the **top 3** most important skills for getting promoted today.
3. Choose the **2** hardest skills to teach in a classroom.

- [__] Coding and data analysis
- [__] Managing stress and staying calm under pressure
- [__] Speaking a second language fluently
- [__] Listening actively and showing empathy
- [__] Public speaking and presenting ideas clearly
- [__] Financial accounting and budgeting
- [__] Adapting quickly when plans change
- [__] Giving honest feedback without upsetting people

Everyday English: Real English

Drop these phrases into your conversation when talking about learning and careers:

- **You're never too old to…** (age shouldn't stop someone from learning)
- **I picked it up on the job.** (learned a skill naturally while working)
- **It's a steep learning curve.** (something difficult to learn at the beginning)

2. Discussion: Never Stop Learning

1. What is a skill you learned outside of school (e.g., cooking, driving, a language, a software tool)? How did you learn it?
2. Why do many adults stop learning new things once they finish their formal education?
3. Would you ever make a complete career change in your 30s, 40s, or 50s? What would stop you or motivate you?
4. When hiring someone, should companies care more about a candidate's qualifications or their personality and attitude?
5. How has the internet (YouTube, podcasts, free courses) changed the way people educate themselves?
6. Have you ever experienced a "steep learning curve" at a new job or with a new hobby? What happened?
7. Do you think employers should pay for their staff to take courses that aren't directly related to their current job?

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3. Group Challenge: What Should Schools Teach in 2035?

Imagine you are on a committee designing a brand-new curriculum for 15-year-olds in the year **2035**.

- **Step 1:** Choose **three traditional subjects** to cut or reduce (e.g., cursive handwriting, advanced algebra,memorizing historical dates, literature).
- **Step 2:** Choose **four modern life skills** to make mandatory (e.g., personal finance & taxes, AI prompting & fact-checking, emotional intelligence, basic home/car repairs, nutrition & mental health, negotiation).
- **Step 3:** Present your 2035 school timetable to another pair and defend your choices!

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