Title: New Year's Resolutions at Dunder Mifflin: "The Ultimatum"

Objective: By the end of the lesson, students will be able to understand and use vocabulary related to New Year's resolutions, identify key grammar points (Future Simple, Going to, Modal Verbs for Intention), comprehend a written passage, engage in listening comprehension, and practice grammar through role-play situations.

Level: Intermediate to Advanced

Duration: 90 minutes

Materials:

1. Whiteboard and markers

2. Handouts with the reading passage and comprehension questions

3. Audio clip or script for listening comprehension (Scene from "The Office" - "The Ultimatum")

4. Visuals related to New Year's resolutions (optional)

Introduction (15 minutes):

1. Begin with a discussion about New Year's resolutions. Ask students if they make resolutions and what types of goals they set.

2. Write key vocabulary on the board: resolution, goal, commitment, intention, ultimatum, etc.

3. Introduce the grammar points: Future Simple (will), Going to, and Modal Verbs for Intention (want to, would like to, plan to).

Listening Comprehension (15 minutes):

1. Play the audio clip or read a script of the New Year's resolution scene from "The Ultimatum" episode.

2. Provide students with a set of listening comprehension questions.

3. Discuss the answers as a class.

Listening Comprehension Questions:

1. What resolutions are mentioned by the characters in the scene?

2. Who is giving the ultimatum, and what is the ultimatum about?

3. How do the characters express their intentions for the new year?

4. Are there any humorous elements related to New Year's resolutions in the scene?

5. What is the overall mood of the scene regarding resolutions?

Vocabulary and Grammar Practice (20 minutes):

Vocabulary: Resolution, Goal, Commitment, Intention, Ultimatum, Achieve, Improve, Change, Quit, Start, etc.

Grammar: Future Simple, Going to, Modal Verbs for Intention

1. Conduct vocabulary exercises, such as matching words to their meanings, using the new words in sentences, or discussing personal resolutions.

2. Practice Future Simple, Going to, and Modal Verbs for Intention. Divide students into pairs and have them create mini-dialogues using these grammar structures.

Role Play (15 minutes):

1. Put students in pairs.

2. Provide role-play slips with scenarios related to New Year's resolutions.

3. Encourage students to use Future Simple, Going to, and Modal Verbs for Intention in their role plays.

4. Monitor and provide feedback after the role plays.

Reading Comprehension (20 minutes):

1. Distribute the reading passage about New Year's resolutions at Dunder Mifflin.

2. Have students read the passage individually or in pairs and complete the sentences.

3. Check answers.

Reading Exercise: "New Year's Resolutions at Dunder Mifflin"

Read the passage about New Year's resolutions at Dunder Mifflin from "The Office" and fill in the blanks with the missing words provided below.

At the start of the year, employees at Dunder Mifflin were busy making their New Year's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Some aimed to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their productivity, while others planned to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bad habits. Pam, for instance, wanted to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ her artistic skills, and Dwight, in his unique style, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to dominate the beet farming market.

As the ultimatum loomed, the office was buzzing with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about personal and professional \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The characters expressed their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to achieve their goals in the coming months.

Missing Words:

Resolutions

Improve

Quit

Start

Planned

Intentions

Aspirations

Answers:

At the start of the year, employees at Dunder Mifflin were busy making their New Year's resolutions. Some aimed to improve their productivity, while others planned to quit bad habits. Pam, for instance, wanted to start her artistic skills, and Dwight, in his unique style, planned to dominate the beet farming market.

As the ultimatum loomed, the office was buzzing with aspirations about personal and professional intentions. The characters expressed their commitment to achieve their goals in the coming months.

Post Discussion (5 minutes):

1. Discuss the resolutions mentioned in the reading passage.

2. Encourage students to share their own New Year's resolutions.

3. Reflect on how the characters in "The Ultimatum" approached their resolutions.

Note: Adapt the lesson plan based on the specific needs and proficiency level of your students. Consider incorporating multimedia resources or additional examples for further clarification.

Scenario: Office Discussion

Student A: You are a manager at an office meeting discussing New Year's resolutions. Share your resolutions and encourage your colleagues to do the same.

Student B: You are a colleague at the meeting. Share your resolutions and respond to others with support and encouragement.

Scenario: Gym Buddies

Student A: You want to convince your friend to join the gym with you for your fitness resolution. Use persuasive language and express your intention.

Student B: You are hesitant about joining the gym. Express your concerns and respond to your friend's persuasion.

Scenario: Personal Trainer Consultation

Student A: You are a personal trainer. Interview your client (Student B) about their fitness goals for the new year. Provide suggestions and encouragement.

Student B: You are a client looking to get fit in the new year. Share your fitness goals, preferences, and listen to the trainer's advice.

Scenario: Language Learning Partners

Student A: You and your friend (Student B) want to learn a new language together in the new year. Discuss your language learning goals and how you plan to achieve them.

Student B: You are excited about learning a new language but unsure about the approach. Share your goals and discuss how to work together.

Scenario: Creative Writing Class

Student A: You are a creative writing teacher. Discuss New Year's resolutions related to writing with your student (Student B). Encourage them to set specific writing goals.

Student B: You are a student interested in improving your writing skills. Share your resolutions, and discuss your plans for achieving them.

Scenario: Family New Year's Eve Party

Student A: You are a parent hosting a New Year's Eve family party. Discuss resolutions with your child (Student B) and encourage them to set goals for the upcoming year.

Student B: You are a child excited about the New Year's Eve party. Share your resolutions and discuss them with your parent.

Scenario: Career Development Workshop

Student A: You are a career coach leading a workshop. Discuss New Year's resolutions related to career development with your client (Student B) and provide guidance.

Student B: You are a professional seeking career advice. Share your career resolutions, and discuss your plans for professional growth.

Scenario: Roommates Setting Goals

Student A: You are a roommate who wants to create a more organized living space. Discuss resolutions with your roommate (Student B) and propose changes.

Student B: You are a roommate interested in a more organized living space. Share your resolutions, and discuss how you both can work together to achieve them.