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I've got a Problem

This speaking activity teaches students how to give advice to people using modal verbs.

Divide the class into two groups: Problem People and Advice Givers.

Ask the problem people to each think of a minor problem they have and are willing to talk about.

Go through the different ways of giving advice with the advice givers.

You could...

You should...

You might as well...

You might...

You ought to...

You might try... -ing ...

Each problem person pairs off with an advice giver.

The problem person explains their problem and the other student gives a piece of advice using the modal verbs suggested.

Each problem person then moves on to another advice giver.

The problem people have to speak to five advice givers.

After the activity has been completed, have a class feedback session.

Ask some of the problem people to state their problem and report to the class on the best and the worst piece of advice they were offered, naming the advice giver, e.g. Gary was telling me I should wake up earlier. Elly suggested I ought to organize my time better.

