

Worksheet

Change topic

Student name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Practice

1 Choose the correct phrase to complete the sentence.

- a Could I just talk about how *we are / are we* going to adapt to those changes?
- b *Allow / Let* me to stop you there and say that I think there are other, more important features of a good college that we need to consider.
- c *Unless / In case* I forget, we need to remind everyone that there has been a change to the schedule.
- d Interesting *what / that* you should mention the environment, because I think we need to discuss the pollution problem in greater detail.
- e *We haven't yet / yet haven't* talked about ways to address the problem.
- f This has nothing *to do / doing* with what we were talking about, but does anyone here seriously believe that we are in danger from artificial intelligence?

2 Match the phrases below to phrases with a similar meaning in Exercise 1. Write the letter of the sentence.

- a While I remember, ...
- b Completely changing the subject, ...
- c Do you mind if I bring up ...?
- d Let's discuss ...
- e On the subject of ...
- f Forgive me for interrupting, but ...

3 Working in pairs, take turns to role-play the situations. In each case, the person changing the topic should begin with a phrase from Exercise 1, Exercise 2 or the Factsheet.

- a A 'So, I think it's really important to finalize the cost of the project.'
B Change the topic from costs to finding the right people for the project.
- b B 'I would like to see more of these skyscrapers being built.'
A Change the topic from architecture to the lack of jobs in rural areas.
- c A 'This new method will help people learn a foreign language in less time.'
B Change the topic from learning a foreign language to learning your native language.
- d B 'With a few simple changes to our diet, we can prevent a great many of these diseases.'
A Change the topic from diet to the dangers of smoking.
- e A 'In this way, we can increase the potential earnings of each worker.'
B Change the topic from salary to job satisfaction.
- f B 'In this vision of the future, there is very little that technology will not be able to do for us.'
A Change the topic from technology to personal happiness.

4  **Look at the phrases that you could use in order to change topic in a monologue. Prepare a short talk on a subject you know something about.**

- Your talk should be on different aspects of the same subject, so that you change topic at least twice.
- Look at the example below to help you prepare.
- Deliver your talk to your partner, using some of the phrases below to change topic.

And now for ... / And now to (the subject of) ...
Let's move on to ...
Moving on/along, ...
Now I'm going to / I'd like to (talk about / move on to) ...
Speaking about/of ...
Speaking of which ...
We need to talk about ...
Meanwhile, we need to cover ...
What's important to remember is ...

The 1920s was a time of great change in painting. We had ... *[more information]* ... So, as you can see, it was an important time for the visual arts.

Moving along, / Speaking of the arts, / What's important to remember is that it was an exciting time for music, too ... *[more information]* ... Some of these musicians changed the course of musical history.

Meanwhile, we need to cover / Let's move on to / And now to the subject of / Now let's talk about the literature of the period. This, too, was ... *[more information]* ...

Reflect

5 **After working with the phrases in this unit, do you feel more confident about changing the topic? Write a list of five phrases that you could use in your own speaking.**
