

Lesson Plan:

Eliminating redundant words

LEVEL	TIME	FOCUS
Intermediate to advanced (B2-C2)	45-60 minutes	Writing clarity, vocabulary refinement

Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Identify redundant word pairs or phrases in sentences.
- Understand why redundancy weakens writing.
- Revise sentences to eliminate redundancy and improve clarity.

Materials Needed

- Whiteboard/markers or digital board
- Handouts with examples
- Short reading passage (optional)
- Worksheet (with answer key)

Key Vocabulary

- Redundant
- Concise
- Tautology
- Repetitive
- Wordiness

Warm-Up (10 min)

Activity: "Say It Better"

Write a few redundant phrases on the board:

- "Free gift"
- "Advance warning"

- "Repeat again"
- "End result"

Ask students:

"What do these phrases mean? Can we say them in fewer words without changing the meaning?"

Elicit suggestions like "gift," "warning," "repeat," "result."

Presentation (15 min)

Mini-Lesson: What is Redundancy?

Explain redundancy as the unnecessary repetition of meaning (e.g., "absolutely essential").

Show examples in full sentences:

She made a final conclusion at the end of the meeting.

She made a conclusion at the end of the meeting.

Go over common redundant pairs:

Past history → history

- True facts → facts
- Each and every → each or every

Basic fundamentals → fundamentals

Practice (15-20 min)

Activity 1: Spot the Redundancy (Pair or Group Work)

Give students a worksheet with 10-15 sentences. Example:

1. The reason is because we were late.
2. In my personal opinion, it's wrong.
3. They collaborated together on the project.

Students underline redundant words and rewrite the sentences.

Activity 2: Rewrite a Paragraph (Optional)

Provide a short, wordy paragraph and ask students to revise it for clarity.

Production (10-15 min)

Activity: Peer Editing

Have students write 4-5 sentences on a topic (e.g., "My morning routine") using at least one redundancy *on purpose*. Then, they swap papers and correct each other's sentences.

Wrap-Up / Homework

Exit Question:

"What is one redundant phrase you'll avoid from now on?"

Homework:

Students find three examples of redundancy in real-life media (ads, articles, etc.) and bring them to the next class.