

Task Name: NYC Weekend Plans Exchange

Materials Needed: Genki textbook (Ch.1-Ch.3), notebook/pen, optional smartphone/computer for research

Language Skills Practiced: Speaking, writing, and using the topic particle は

Time Required: 30-45 minutes

Background: You are a student living in New York City, and you want to discuss weekend plans with your classmates. In this task, you will use the topic particle は to share and ask about typical weekend activities in NYC, such as visiting parks, watching movies, or meeting friends. The goal is to practice forming sentences with は to describe what you or others do on weekends, based on scenarios relevant to NYC student life.

Key Vocabulary (from Genki Ch.1-Ch.3 only):

- 週末(しゅうまつ)
- 友達(ともだち)
- 映画(えいが)
- 公園(こうえん)
- 勉強します(べんきょうします)
- テレビを見ます(テレビをみます)
- 本を読みます(ほんをよみます)
- 何をしますか(なにをしますか)
- どこ
- いつ
- たいてい

Instructional Steps:

1. Review the key vocabulary above and practice saying each word aloud, focusing on pronunciation. Write down 2-3 simple sentences using は from Genki examples (e.g., 週末はたいてい勉強します).
2. In pairs, create a short dialogue where you ask and answer about weekend plans in NYC. Use は to set topics, such as “週末はたいてい何をしますか” or “友達は公園に行きます”. Incorporate NYC-specific elements like “公園” for Central Park or “映画” for local theaters.
3. Individually, write a paragraph (3-5 sentences) describing your ideal weekend in NYC using は. For example, “土曜日は映画を見ます。日曜日は友達と公園で勉強します。” Exchange paragraphs with a partner to check for correct use of は.
4. As a class, share one sentence from your paragraph aloud. Listen to others and note how は is used to highlight different weekend activities.
5. Optional extension: Use a smartphone or computer to find one NYC weekend event (e.g., a park festival) and describe it in one sentence with は, using vocabulary from the list (e.g., 週末は公園でイベントがあります).