Focus on activity: Future Perfect

Target audience (age): young adults, adults, teens
Lesson links: The Big Picture B2 Upper Intermediate, Unit 5; Upgrade, Unit 21; English ID 3, Unit 9.
Aim: practice the Future Perfect
Duration: 15-30 min.
Organization: group work; individual work
Materials: worksheet, sheets of paper, and internet access

Preparation:
- Have the worksheets ready.

Procedure:
- Explain to students that we use the Future Perfect:
  1. when an action will be complete at a specific time in the future.
     - I will have finished my project by the weekend.
     - This time next year I will have graduated college.
     - I’ll have retired in 20 years.
  2. to express actions in the future before another action in the future. This is the past of the future.
     - The airplane will have left when you arrive. (It’s 10:00 and you haven’t arrived at the airport yet. You’re late and the airplane departures at 10:15.)
     - Call me at home at 8:30. I will have arrived by 8:00.
     - Will she have received the mail when I come home tonight?
     - Don’t bother going to see him, he’ll have left.
- Divide students into groups of four.
- Ask each group to brainstorm a list of events that may happen to them in the future. Examples: get married, have children, go to college, get a degree, buy a car, buy a house, travel abroad etc.
- Write on the board the time references below and have students say some personal experiences they believe they’ll have had by then: in 25 minutes, in 5 years, in 10 years, in 20 years. Examples: I’ll have bought a car in 5 years or I will have finished the job in 25 minutes.
- Give students some subjects to talk about: technology, science, relationships. Ask them to come up with two sentences for each subject about what will have happened in a period of 10 and 20 years.
- Ask each student to read his/her sentences to their group.
- The groups decide if the sentences are grammatically correct and if the idea is relevant, or interesting.
- Students choose three sentences among those presented in the group and read them to the rest of the class. The other groups have to check if the sentences are correct and choose the best ideas.
- Hand in the worksheets, read the synopsis and ask students if they understand what the movie is about.
• Play the movie trailer and check understanding: <www.youtube.com/watch?v=_BEj08Tgmpc> (accessed on May 12, 2014).

• Ask students to answer the questions in exercise 1.

• Have students share their answers in pairs before discussing them with the whole class.

• Ask them to complete exercise 2. Play the video again and correct the answers.

Answer Key:

1. Watch the trailer of the movie and complete the sentences using the verbs in the box.

   ![Verb Box]

   By next Thursday…
   
   …Lanie will have changed her hairstyle.
   
   …she will have gotten a new job.
   
   …she will have discovered a new lifestyle.
   
   …she will not have died.

2. Complete the sentences using the correct verb tense to make them true according to the trailer.

   The homeless man told the reporter: “By next Thursday you will have died” (die).

   The Seahawks will have won (win) by the end of the season.

   According to the weather forecast, it will have hailed (hail) by the end of the week.

   The homeless man will have been (be) right about the job prediction if she died.
Life or Something Like It – Synopsis

A reporter, Lanie Kerrigan (Angelina Jolie), interviews a psychic homeless man (Tony Shalhoub) for a fluff piece about the score of a football game. He then tells her that her life has no meaning and is going to end in just a few days, which sparks her to action, trying to change the pattern of her life.

1. Watch the trailer of the movie and complete the sentences using the verbs in the box.

By next Thursday…

…Lanie ___________________________ her hairstyle.

…she ___________________________ a new job.

…she ___________________________ a new lifestyle.

…she ________________ not ___________________________.

2. Complete the sentences using the correct verb tense to make them true according to the trailer.

The homeless man told the reporter: “By next Thursday you ________________” (die).

The Seahawks ___________________________ (win) by the end of the season.

According to the weather forecast, it ___________________________ (hail) by the end of the week.

The homeless man ___________________________ (be) right about the job prediction if she died.