

Trend Task: Come On Over

Approach: One to one
 Focus: Persuading
 Resources: Work book

Year: 8

Questions / instructions:

Sometimes we want to talk someone into thinking about things the same way we think about them. For example, you might try to persuade your parents to let you stay up late to watch a movie on TV. When we are trying to persuade someone we have to think of some good reasons for them to agree.

You are going to pretend that you want to have a friend come over to your place after school. You have to try and convince your parents that it would be a good idea.

You will need to try to think of some really good reasons for having your friend come to your house. Try to think of things your parents might not like about having your friend over and what you could say to them about those things.

You can have a few moments to think about what you might say to your parents and how you might say it. Then you can imagine that I am your parent and tell me what you would say.

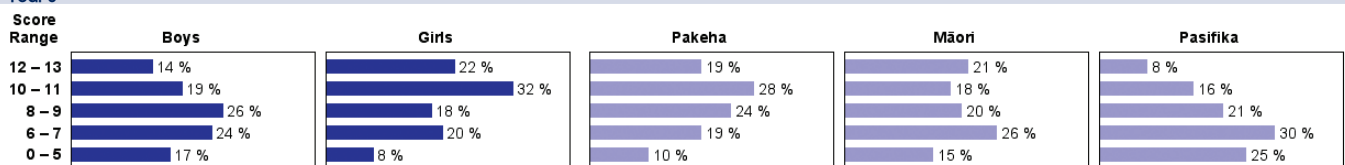
Allow time.

- Now imagine that I am your parent. Try to persuade me with your good reasons, and remember that I might not want to have your friend come over after school.

		% response 2008 ('04)	year 8	% response 2008 ('04)	year 8	
Degree to which enthusiasm for having friend over had been communicated:	very strongly	14	(8)			
	strongly	39	(32)			
	moderately	39	(48)			
	weakly	8	(12)			
Degree to which possible parental arguments against had been addressed and/or countered by alternative arguments:	extensively	25	(17)	Overall strength of argument:		
	substantially	40	(29)		very persuasive	19 (16)
	moderately	30	(42)		quite persuasive	42 (34)
	very little/not at all	5	(12)		a little persuasive	32 (40)
Coherence of presentation:	very coherent	61	(50)	not persuasive	7 (10)	
	moderately coherent	35	(43)	Total score:	12-13	18 (17)
	not coherent	4	(7)		10-11	25 (15)
Speech clarity:	high	84	(80)		8-9	22 (18)
	moderate	14	(17)		6-7	22 (29)
	low	2	(3)		0-5	13 (21)

Subgroup Analyses:

Year 8



Commentary:

There was a wide range of performance on this task, arising mainly from the first two criteria (communication of enthusiasm and addressing probable parental concerns). Performance improved a little from 2004 to 2008. Girls had their largest margin over boys for any speaking tasks.