Insurance: Teaching suggestions

Activity 1
- Get a student to read the instructions out loud and check that the students understand them.
- Let the students work together.
- Stop the activity and elicit feedback. Do not go into detailed explanations of the vocabulary as the next exercise will give the students the definitions they need anyway.

Activity 2
- Get a student to read the instructions out loud and check that the students understand them.
- Let the students do the activity individually before checking in pairs.
- Monitor closely.

Activity 3
- Get a student to read the instructions out loud and check that the students understand them.
- Let the students do the activity individually before checking in pairs.
- Monitor closely.
- Stop the activity and elicit feedback. Answers: 1. take out 2. premiums 3. theft 4. catastrophes 5. claim/pay out 6. policies 7. cover 8. broker

Activity 4
- Get a student to read the instructions out loud and check that the students understand them.
- Let the students form their questions then begin their conversation, in English, in pairs or small groups.
- Monitor closely.
- Stop the activity and elicit feedback.

Activity 5
If your students don’t have access to computers in the classroom, set this for homework.

Answers:
1. Ben Turpin (the 1920s silent movie actor) insured his crossed eyes.
2. Tom Jones, the famous singer, insured his chest hair!
3. See below.

Quick Quiz

Read the clues below and write the solutions on a piece of paper. Then take the first letter of each answer and rearrange them to find a word connected with this month’s Talking Point subject: ‘Insurance.’

1. When taking out insurance on our homes, ………………………, etc. many of us might consider taking out insurance on our lives too.
2. Dancers insure their ………………, singers insure their voices, and so on.
3. There have been several well-known cases of celebrities insuring parts of their bodies over the years. It …………………seems to have started in the 1920s with an actor called Ben Turpin.
4. ……………………………have insured fingers or whole hands.
5. So, bearing ………………..mind that just about anything can be insured or insured against, if you had unlimited funds, which part (or parts) of your body would you insure…?

Answers: CLAIM (C for Cars [1], L for Lives [2], A for All [3], I for In [5], M for Musicians [4]).

Activity 6
This activity can be set as homework to be followed up and consolidated in a future lesson generating more discussion. What did most students feel about the question? What reasons were put forward in each case? Did the students read anything which changed their minds on the topic? (etc.)