Refusal Strategies, Vocabulary, and Model Dialogs

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Step 1: Go over the following refusal strategies. Make sure you understand the meaning of all the vocabulary!

| Refusal strategy | Example expression | 日本語で |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Positive response | *Umm, that sounds wonderful but…* |  |
| *Hm. I’d like to/love to but…* |  |
| *Ah, I wish I could, but…* |  |
| Thanking | *Thank you for the invitation/offer.* |  |
| *Thanks, but...* |  |
| Apology | *Umm, I’m sorry, but…* |  |
| Alternative | *How about (next weekend)?* |  |
| *You could ask (someone else).* |  |
| Direct refusal | *I can’t go.* |  |
| *I can’t make it.* |  |
| Reason | *I already have other plans.* |  |
| *I have to…* |  |

Have you noticed these refusal strategies before? If so, please share your experience with the class.

Step 2: With a partner, read the model dialogs below, then underline and label each refusal strategy expression   
 like in the example below:

Example:

A: I’m heading to that new restaurant with some friends on Saturday. Would you like to grab lunch with us?

B: Cool! That sounds like a lot of fun. I’d love to go, but I can’t. I have to help my friend move that day. Thanks anyways!   
 (positive response) (direct refusal)      (reason)

Dialog 1:

A: Would you like some chocolate?

B: Um, I’d love some, but I’m on a diet now. Thanks for offering!

Dialog 2:

A: I’m having a party next week! You should come!

B: Um, I’d love to, but I’ll be out of town.

A: Ah, that’s too bad.

B: Yeah. Well, I hope you have a good time!

Dialog 3:

A: Say, how about getting together this evening in the library to study for our test next week?

B: Oh, that sounds like a wonderful idea, but I have to go to my part-time job. How about tomorrow night?

Step 3: With a partner, read the refusal expressions on the board. What strategy is each one?