

Activity Type

Listening and writing activity, pair work

Focus

Listening comprehension

Vocabulary review

Aim

To transcribe a text and replace humorous or nonsense words with the correct vocabulary.

Preparation

Prepare a text that includes vocabulary you want to review. Replace the target vocabulary with humorous or nonsense words like 'banana' or 'doodah'.

Level

Any

Time

20 minutes

Introduction

In this amusing dictation activity, students transcribe a text and replace humorous or nonsense words with the correct vocabulary.

Procedure

Dictate the text to the students who transcribe what you say word for word, including the funny or nonsense words.

Repeat the dictation as needed until the students have completed the text.

Next, put the students into pairs and set a time limit.

Working with their partner, students replace the nonsense words in the text with the correct vocabulary.

Afterwards, go through the correct answers with the class.

Pairs score one point for each correct target word.

If you wish, play multiple rounds by preparing several texts each targeting a different vocabulary set.

The pair with the most points at the end wins.

Example:

Vocabulary set:

bathroom	backyard	laundry	dining room
fence	fireplace	garage	

Text:

I visited Sherry's new house yesterday, and I really liked it. You can fit two cars in the **doodlesack** so there is no need to park on the street. She has a washer and dryer in the **badger**, which is useful here because it rains a lot. When it's cold in the winter, you can sit in front of the big **pudding** and get a nice warm cosy feeling. As well as a shower, there is a big tub in the **doodah**. If she invites guests over for a meal, six people can sit comfortably at the table in the **diddle**. Kids would also enjoy this house as they can play safely in the big spacious **banana**. There are some tall bushes that run along the **thingy**, so it allows for a lot of privacy. I am sure Sherry is really going to enjoy living in her new home.