

Activity Type

Grammar and Speaking Game: asking questions from prompts, guessing, freer practice (pair work)

Focus

Question words

Wh questions

Aim

To race to elicit words by asking questions.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two worksheets for each pair of students.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

Here is a questions race game that helps students practice asking questions with a variety of question words. In the game, students have ten minutes to ask questions to their partner to elicit as many words as possible from their worksheet.

Procedure

Divide the students into pairs (Student A and B).

Give each student a corresponding worksheet.

Tell the students not to show their partner the worksheet.

Explain that the students are going to work with their partner as a team and that they have ten minutes to ask questions to elicit as many words on their worksheet as possible.

Give the students time to go through the words on their sheet and think of some possible questions.

When everyone is ready, give the students a ten-minute time limit and let them begin the game.

Student A asks questions to their partner to elicit as many words from the box on their worksheet as possible.

When Student B says a word from the worksheet, Student A puts a tick next to the word.

If Student B cannot guess the word after a few questions, Student A puts a cross.

After ten minutes, students stop and swap roles.

The process is then repeated with Student B asking the questions.

When everyone has finished, pairs add up their points.

The pair with the highest combined score wins the game.

As an extension, pairs can play against each other. In pairs, students write a new set of words, according to criteria set by you. Students then follow the same procedure as above.

Student A

A. Ask Student B questions to help him or her guess the words in the boxes, e.g. 'What colour is the sky?' (blue)

When Student B says the correct word, put a tick in the box next to the word. If Student B cannot guess the word after a few questions, put a cross. You have ten minutes to ask your questions.

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--|-----------------|--|-----------------|--|-----------------|--|
| 1. blue | | 2. eighteen | | 3. sushi | | 4. uncle | |
| 5. button | | 6. textbook | | 7. salt | | 8. German | |
| 9. winter | | 10. espresso | | 11. park | | 12. pounds | |
| 13. doctor | | 14. school | | 15. spoon | | 16. Beyonce | |
| 17. car | | 18. queen | | 19. London | | 20. July | |
| 21. midnight | | 22. fishing | | 23. ear | | 24. wedding | |
| 25. square | | 26. half | | 27. mountain | | 28. waitress | |

B. Now, answer Student B's questions.

Student B
A. Answer Student A's questions.

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--|---------------------|--|-------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 1. key | | 2. cinema | | 3. Australia | | 4. jacket | |
| 5. Thai | | 6. spaghetti | | 7. Leonardo DiCaprio | | 8. midday | |
| 9. football | | 10. summer | | 11. English | | 12. wife | |
| 13. teacher | | 14. dollars | | 15. kilometer | | 16. telephone | |
| 17. tea | | 18. Eiffel Tower | | 19. red | | 20. December | |
| 21. bus | | 22. round | | 23. hair | | 24. quarter | |
| 25. designer | | 26. lake | | 27. morning | | 28. planet | |

B. Now, ask Student A questions to help him or her guess the words in the boxes, e.g. 'What do you use to open a locked door?' (key)

When Student A says the correct word, put a tick in the box next to the word. If Student A cannot guess the word after a few questions, put a cross. You have ten minutes to ask your questions.