

Activity Type

Writing Game: writing sentences (group work)

Focus

Giving advice

Aim

To write down as many pieces of advice as you can for a given situation.

Preparation

None

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this giving advice game, teams have five minutes to write down as many pieces of advice as they can for a given situation, scoring points for each appropriate sentence. In each round, students are given a different structure for giving advice to use.

Procedure

Divide the class into teams of three.

Appoint one student in each team to do the writing.

Write the following sentence on the board:

I just had a car accident.

Explain that the teams are going to play a game where they have five minutes to write down as many pieces of advice as they can for the situation on the board using the structure: You should...

Examples:

You should call the police.

You should check the damage to your car.

Tell the teams that sentences which say the same thing in a different way count as one sentence, e.g. 'You should check for damage to your car'. 'You should look to see if your car has any dents'.

When the five-minute time limit has been reached, have the teams swap papers for marking.

Ask each team to read out their advice in turn. As each team reads out their sentences, the other teams score any duplicate sentences on their paper. All the sentences should give suitable advice for someone who has had a car accident.

Teams score one point for each appropriate sentence.

Play further rounds using a different situation and structure for giving advice each time

The team with the most points at the end of the game wins.

Structures for giving advice:

You ought to...

You could try...

My advice is to...

I would advise that...

If I were you, I'd...

You'd better...

Situations:

I can't find my wallet.

I was fired from my job.

My wife/husband left me.

Burglars broke into my house.

My business has gone bankrupt.

My dog ran away.