Activity Type

Grammar Game: writing and reading sentences, guessing, matching (pair work)

Focus

Past perfect

Aim

To write explanations for saying certain things using the past perfect tense and then to match a partner's explanations to questions.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

Here is a past perfect game to use in class with your students. In the game, students write explanations for saying certain things and then try to match a partner's explanations to questions.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the worksheet.

Tell the students to write explanations in the past perfect tense for saying the things shown on their worksheet.

Example:

Why did you say 'I'm sorry' to your friend?
I had forgotten her birthday.

When all the explanations have been written down, divide the students into pairs.

Tell the students not to show their worksheet to their partner.

Students then take it in turns to read one of their explanations at random to their partner.

Their partner has one chance to try to match the explanation to the right *Why did you say*...? question.

If a student makes a correct match, he or she scores a point.

This continues back and forth until all the past perfect explanations have been read out.

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

A. Write an explanation in the past perfect tense for each question below.

Example: Why did you say 'I'm sorry' to your friend?

....................................*I had forgotten her birthday.*....................................

1. Why did you say 'I hope so' to your teacher?

....

2. Why did you say 'I can't' to your classmate?

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3. Why did you say 'Thank you' to your mother?

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4. Why did you say 'Be careful' to an old man?

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5. Why did you say 'That's terrible' to your friend?

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6. Why did you say 'That's very nice of you' to your neighbour?

....

7. Why did you say 'Don't be stupid' to your classmate?

....

8. Why did you say 'No, thank you' to your friend?

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9. Why did you say 'Don't do that again' to your dog?

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10. Why did you say 'I promise' to your teacher?

....

B. Now, work with a partner. Take it in turns to read one of your explanations at random to your partner. Your partner has one chance to try to match the explanation to the right *Why did you say*...? question. Award yourself one point for each correct match you make.