

Activity Type

Grammar game: bingo, asking and answering questions (group work)

Focus

Present simple yes/no questions and short answers with the verb 'to be'.

Are you...?

Yes, I am.

No, I'm not.

Aim

To practice asking and answering present simple yes/no questions with the verb 'to be'.

Preparation

Make one copy of the bingo cards for every four students per round you wish to play. Cut the cards out as indicated.

Level

Elementary (A1-A2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this verb 'to be' game, students race to complete a bingo card by asking and answering present simple yes/no questions with the verb 'to be'.

Procedure

Write the following on the board: is good at skating.

Demonstrate the activity by telling the students that you need to find someone who is good at skating to complete the sentence.

Elicit the question: Are you good at skating?

Go around the class asking students the question until you find a student who answers 'Yes, I am'. Write that student's name in the blank space on the board. Then, rub out the name and change the word 'is' to 'isn't'. Ask other students the same question and when someone replies 'No, I'm not', write their name in the space.

Tell the students that they are going to play a game of bingo where they race to complete similar sentences by asking and answering present simple yes/no questions with the verb 'to be'.

Give each student a bingo card (A, B, C or D) and go through the vocabulary on the cards. To make the game more personalized, there are six blank 'is' and 'isn't' sentences for the students to fill in based on their own background, culture or country. Have the students begin by completing these six sentences on their cards with their own ideas.

Explain that in order to win the game of bingo, students must get five names in a row either horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.

The students then stand up and go around the classroom asking 'Are you...?' questions, based on the sentences on their bingo cards.

Each time a student speaks to a classmate, they are only allowed to ask one question and then must move on to speak to another student.

The first student to get five names in a row shouts 'bingo'. Check the student's answers by confirming the information with the named students. If the answers are right, the student wins the game. If not, the students continue to play.

Play several rounds, ensuring that students receive a different bingo card each time. You can also have the students win by completing the entire card with names.

Bingo Card A

..... is	..... is funny.	..... is athletic.	..... is	..... is a pet owner.
..... is from a big city.	..... isn't	..... is strong.	..... is hungry.	..... is a musician.
..... is artistic.	..... is a good student.	..... is tired.	..... is from a small town.	..... isn't
..... is good at football.	..... is a hard worker.	..... isn't	..... is kind.	..... is a good cook.
..... is	..... is an only child.	..... is over 170 centimeters tall.	..... is good at drawing.	..... isn't a good singer.


Bingo Card B

..... isn't a good singer.	..... is a good student.	..... is funny.	..... is athletic.	..... is
..... is a pet owner.	..... is from a big city.	..... isn't	..... is strong.	..... is hungry.
..... is a musician.	..... is artistic.	..... is	..... is tired.	..... is from a small town.
..... isn't	..... is good at football.	..... is a hard worker.	..... isn't	..... is kind.
..... is a good cook.	..... is	..... is an only child.	..... is over 170 centimeters tall.	..... is good at drawing.

Bingo Card C

..... is good at drawing.	..... isn't a good singer.	..... is	..... is funny.	..... is athletic.
..... is	..... is a pet owner.	..... is from a big city.	..... isn't	..... is strong.
..... is hungry.	..... is a musician.	..... is artistic.	..... is	..... is tired.
..... is from a small town.	..... isn't	..... is good at football.	..... is a hard worker.	..... is over 170 centimeters tall.
..... is kind.	..... is a good cook.	..... is a good student.	..... is an only child.	..... isn't


Bingo Card D

..... is over 170 centimeters tall.	..... is good at drawing.	..... isn't a good singer.	..... is	..... is funny.
..... is athletic.	..... is	..... is a pet owner.	..... is from a big city.	..... isn't
..... is strong.	..... is hungry.	..... is a musician.	..... is artistic.	..... is
..... is tired.	..... is from a small town.	..... isn't	..... is good at football.	..... is a hard worker.
..... isn't	..... is kind.	..... is a good cook.	..... is a good student.	..... is an only child.