

Activity Type

Reading, matching and speaking activity, group work

Focus

Countries and capital cities

Aim

To learn the names of countries and their capital cities.

Preparation

Make one copy of the cards for each group of three and cut as indicated. Keep the country cards and capital city cards separate.

Level

Elementary (A1-A2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

Here are two country and capital city games that students can play to learn the names of countries and their capital cities.

Procedure

Tell the students that they are going to play a pelmanism game where they match countries and capital cities together.

Divide the students into groups of three. Give each group a set of country cards and capital city cards.

Tell the students to shuffle each set of cards separately and then spread them out on the table face down in two sets.

Students then take it in turns to turn over a country card and a capital city card. If the two cards match, the student makes a sentence using the two cards, e.g. 'Bangkok is the capital city of Thailand'.

The student then keeps the cards and has another turn.

If the cards do not match, the student turns them back over, keeping the cards in the same place.

The students continue to play until all the cards have been matched.

The student with the most cards at the end of the game is the winner.

Next, tell the students that they are going to play a game where they race against each other to match capital cities to countries.

One student takes the country cards, shuffles them and places them in a pile face down.

The other two students take the capital city cards, shuffle them and spread them out face up on the table.

The student with the country cards picks up a card from the pile and reads out the country on the card to the two students.

The two students then race to find the corresponding capital city card and give it to the student, saying the name of the capital city at the same time.

The first student to do this wins and keeps the two cards. This continues until all the cards have been matched. The student with the most cards at the end of the game wins. Afterwards, students swap roles and play again.

Countries and Capital Cities



Egypt	Greece	Cairo	Athens
North Korea	Ethiopia	Pyongyang	Addis Ababa
Mexico	Iran	Mexico City	Tehran
Malaysia	Argentina	Kuala Lumpur	Buenos Aires
New Zealand	Belgium	Wellington	Brussels
Cuba	Denmark	Havana	Copenhagen
Chile	Libya	Santiago	Tripoli
Indonesia	Brazil	Jakarta	Brasilia
Nepal	Iceland	Kathmandu	Reykjavik
Pakistan	Taiwan	Islamabad	Taipei
India	Afghanistan	New Delhi	Kabul
Australia	Cambodia	Canberra	Phnom Penh
Japan	China	Tokyo	Beijing
Russia	Zimbabwe	Moscow	Harare
Thailand	Vietnam	Bangkok	Hanoi