

Activity Type

Listening and speaking activity, 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 activity, 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) and 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, the 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.