

Activity Type

Speaking Activity: asking and answering questions from prompts, controlled and communicative practice

Focus

Asking for permission with *May I...?*

Giving and refusing permission

Aim

To practice asking for, giving and refusing permission.

Preparation

Make one copy of the cards for every 12 students and cut as indicated. If you have more than 12 students in the class, divide them into groups.

Put a tick on the back of half of the cards and a cross on the back of the other half.

Level

Elementary (A1-A2)

Time

20 minutes

Introduction

In this asking for permission activity, students practice asking for, giving and refusing permission using cards as prompts.

Procedure

Give each student a card.

Explain that the students are going to use the prompt on their card to ask permission.

Go through how to ask for permission using *May I...?* with the class.

Then, go over ways to give or refuse permission.

Next, explain that on one side of their card is the permission prompt and on the other is a tick or cross.

Students hold their cards so the permission prompt is facing towards them and the tick or cross is facing away.

Students then go around the class asking for, giving and refusing permission with as many partners as possible.

If students see a tick, they give permission, e.g. 'Yes, you may.'

If there is a cross, students refuse permission, e.g. 'No, you may not.'

Afterwards, students repeat the activity, but this time they hold their card the other way around so the permission prompt is facing away.

Students then go around the class, asking for permission to do different things each time they speak to a classmate.

leave class
early



take this
chair



have some
more ice
cream



borrow your
calculator



bring my
friend to
the party



have a
drink of
water



open the
window



turn on the
fan



give you my
homework
tomorrow



ask a
question



call you
back



use your
mobile
phone

