

Activity Type

Miming and speaking activity

Language Focus

Christmas traditions and activities

Present continuous

Aim

To guess what Christmas traditions or activities students are doing from mimes.

Preparation

Make one copy of the cards and cut as indicated.

Level

Pre-intermediate

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

This entertaining miming game can be used to teach or review common Christmas traditions and activities as well as the present continuous tense.

Procedure

Begin by asking the students to watch you and guess what you are doing. Mime a Christmas tradition or activity and encourage the students to call out their answers in the present continuous tense.

When the students have guessed what you are doing, tell them that they are going to play a similar game in teams.

Divide the class into two teams.

Explain that the aim of the game is for the students in the teams to guess what Christmas traditions or activities students are doing from mimes.

One team goes first and chooses a team member to do the first mime.

The chosen student comes to the front of the class and is given a mime card. The student then asks the class 'What am I doing?' and performs the mime on the card.

When a member of either team thinks they know what Christmas tradition or activity the student is doing, they call out their answer by making a present continuous sentence, e.g. 'You are singing a Christmas carol'.

Students must say the exact words on the mime card to win.

The first student to guess the sentence wins a point for their team.

A student from the other team then comes to the front of the class and so on.

The game continues with teams taking it in turns to mime a Christmas tradition or activity until all the cards have been used.

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

If you think your students may be too embarrassed to mime in front of the class, they can play the game in small teams.

You are singing a Christmas carol.

You are making a Christmas card.

You are eating sweets (candy).

You are wrapping Christmas presents.

You are carving a roast turkey.

You are pulling a Christmas cracker.

You are watching fireworks.

You are putting on a paper hat.

You are decorating a Christmas tree.

You are putting up Christmas decorations.

You are throwing snowballs.

You are giving someone a Christmas present.

You are opening a Christmas present.

You are opening a Christmas card.

You are hanging up a stocking.

You are giving a toast.

You are eating Christmas dinner.

You are shopping for Christmas presents.

You are making a snowman.

You are sledging.