

Activity Type

Listening and speaking activity

Language Focus

Irregular verb forms

Aim

To practice irregular verb forms

Preparation

None

Level

Elementary and above

Time

20 minutes

Introduction

Here is a fun ESL game for practicing irregular verb forms.

Procedure

Divide the students into two teams (A and B).

Have one student from each team (Player A and B) come to the front of the class and sit facing each other. You act as umpire.

Player A thinks of an irregular verb and serves it by saying the past participle form of the verb, e.g. begun.

Player B responds to the serve with the past form of the verb, e.g. began.

Player A then gives the base form of the verb, e.g. begin.

Player B then serves by choosing a new irregular verb. The serve is always the past participle form of the verb.

When a player makes a mistake or is too slow to respond, the other player scores a point for their team and the correct verb form is written on the board.

For example, if Player A served with the wrong past participle form (e.g. began), Player B scores a point. The game would then continue with Player B responding to the serve, giving the past form of the verb.

The round finishes when a player gets three points.

The two players' scores are then written on the board and a new player from each team comes to the front and so on.

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

This game can also be played with adjectives, comparatives and superlatives as well as countries, nationalities and languages.