

Activity Type

Listening and speaking activity

Language Focus

Describing appearance, clothing and personality

Aim

To listen and match descriptions.

Preparation

A soft ball

Level

Elementary and above

Time

20 minutes

Introduction

This fun describing game is a variation of dodgeball and can be used to help students practice describing appearance, clothing and personality.

Procedure

Clear a space in the classroom, so there is room to run from one side of the room to the other.

Have all the students stand at one end of the room.

Choose one student to be the ball thrower and have that student stand to the side with the ball.

The student with the ball starts describing another student in the class, e.g. 'This student is wearing white trainers. This student has short brown hair and blue eyes. This student is hard-working'.

The students at the end of the classroom listen to the description.

When they figure out who is being described, that student runs to the other side of the room.

The ball thrower then tries to hit the student with the ball as they run.

If the student is hit, they are out of the game and become the new ball thrower. The two students then work together to describe another student in the class.

If not, the student is safe and stays at the other side of the classroom.

The game continues until there is one student left standing. That student wins the game.

Alternatively, you could describe other things by giving each student a flashcard to hold.

You could also start as the ball thrower to help demonstrate the game and give everyone a chance to play.