

Activity Type

Listening and speaking activity, group work

Language Focus

Describing

Vocabulary revision

Aim

To describe words and guess words from descriptions.

Preparation

None

Level

Elementary and above

Time

20 minutes

Introduction

This is one of the most popular describing games for teachers to play with their students to practice or revise vocabulary.

Procedure

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

Place two chairs at the front of the class facing away from the board.

Choose one player from each team to come and sit on one of the chairs.

These chairs are the 'Hot Seats'.

Write a word you want the students to revise on the board.

The team members then describe the word to their player in the hot seat using definitions, synonyms, etc.

Team members can describe the word however they like, but they are not allowed to say the word, variations of the word, the beginning letter or use their native language.

The two players listen to their teammates and try to guess the word.

The first player to say the word scores a point for their team and changes places with someone else from their team.

The other player has to stay in the hot seat until he or she is first to answer correctly.

A new word is then written on the board and so on.

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