Confusing Numbers

Activity Type

Vocabulary and Pronunciation Activity: stressing syllables, matching (group work)

Focus

Large numbers ending with 'teen' and 'ty'.

Aim

To practice saying large numbers ending with 'teen' and 'ty'.

Preparation

Make one copy of the cards for every three students and cut as indicated. Keep the cards for Game A and Game B separate.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this number pronunciation activity, students practice saying and recognising large numbers ending with 'teen' and 'ty'.

Procedure

Review large numbers. Display the following number:
1,000,000,000 = one billion

If need be, explain how numbers ending with 'teen' have the stress on the final syllable. In numbers that end in 'ty', the stress is on the first syllable.

Examples:

thir**teen**	**thir**ty
four**teen**	**for**ty

Next, divide the class into groups of three.

Distribute the cards for Game A to each group.

If you have extra students, put students together so they are sharing a card.

The student with START on their card begins by saying the number indicated in the 'Say' column next to START.

The other students listen carefully and try to find the number in the 'Hear' column on their card.

This can be quite challenging as the numbers have a very similar sound, e.g. 118 and 180. Remind the students to pay particular attention to how they pronounce the numbers.

If a student sees a matching number in the 'Hear' column, they say the corresponding number in the 'Say' column for the other students to recognise.

The turn then passes from student to student until they reach the FINISH.

If necessary, demonstrate the activity to the class before students begin working in their groups.

When the students have finished, distribute the cards for Game B and have the groups repeat the activity with the new game cards.

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Confusing Numbers

Card 1 A	
Hear	**Say**
632,370	1,111,113
9,354,550	8,919
541,816	20,313
60,090	919
1,740	1,111,130
START	118
8,990	73,318
999	20,330

Card 1 B	
Hear	**Say**
88,880	14,340
7,878,815	9,999,999
717	**FINISH**
14,314	4,640
3,333,130	777
270,770	16,330
4,519	616,660
213	4,614

Card 2 A	
Hear	**Say**
118	60,019
1,714	73,380
73,318	541,816
8,919	60,090
20,330	9,354,515
1,111,130	541,860
919	180
1,000,000	1,000,000,000

Card 2 B	
Hear	**Say**
616,660	213
14,340	16,313
9,999,999	4,590
7,878,850	9,999,919
4,640	230
START	3,333,113
270,717	4,519
16,330	88,818

Card 3 A	
Hear	**Say**
73,380	9,354,550
60,019	999
1,000,000,000	**FINISH**
9,354,515	1,740
180	1,000,000
541,860	8,990
20,313	632,370
1,111,113	1,714

Card 3 B	
Hear	**Say**
88,818	270,717
4,614	88,880
3,333,113	7,878,815
9,999,919	3,333,130
4,590	14,314
230	270,770
16,313	7,878,850
777	717

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