

Activity Type

Grammar and Speaking Game: pelmanism, reforming sentences, controlled practice (group work)

Focus

Direct speech

Reported speech

Aim

To play a pelmanism game where you change direct speech into reported speech.

Preparation

Make one copy of the cards for each group of three and cut as indicated.

Keep the (shorter) direct speech cards and (longer) reported speech cards separate.

Level

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time

20 minutes

Introduction

In this direct and reported speech game, students change direct speech into reported speech.

Procedure

Divide the students into groups of three.

Give each group a set of direct speech cards and a set of reported speech cards.

Ask the students to shuffle each set of cards and spread them out face-down on the table in two sets.

Players take turns turning over a direct speech card and reading what's on the card, e.g. "I like pizza", she said.

The player then changes the direct speech into reported speech, e.g. 'She said that she liked pizza.'

Next, the player tries to find the sentence by turning over one of the reported speech cards.

If the player turns over the matching card, they keep the pair of cards and have another turn.

If the two cards don't match or the player's sentence is not the same as what's on the reported speech card, the player turns the two cards back over, keeping them in the same place.

Players must correctly say the reported speech before they try to find the corresponding card.

If a player is unable to correctly form the reported speech, the direct speech card is turned back over and play passes to the next student.

The game continues until all the cards have been matched.

The player with the most pairs of cards at the end of the game wins.



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| "I am reading a book", he explained. | He explained that he was reading a book. |
| "Where do you live?", she asked me. | She asked me where I lived. |
| "Learning English is easy", they told us. | They told us that learning English was easy. |
| "Do you like chocolate?", the boy asked me. | The boy asked me if I liked chocolate. |
| "I'll be using the car next Friday", she said. | She said that she would be using the car next Friday. |
| "We are working on the project together", they told me. | They told me that they were working on the project together. |
| "I drink five cups of coffee a day", she said. | She said that she drank five cups of coffee a day. |
| "I might be late", he explained. | He explained that he might be late. |
| "I will be in London on Saturday", she said. | She said that she would be in London on Saturday. |
| "Noah bought a new car", he said. | He said that Noah had bought a new car. |
| "We have been waiting for hours", they complained. | They complained that they had been waiting for hours. |
| "I have been to Italy", she told me. | She told me that she had been to Italy. |
| "I can match the cards together", he told them. | He told them that he could match the cards together. |
| "I haven't seen Sophia," he explained. | He explained that he hadn't seen Sophia. |