

Activity Type

Matching and speaking activity, group work

Language Focus

Prepositions of time: in, on, at

Time expressions

Prepositional time phrases

Aim

To match the prepositions of time 'in', 'on' and 'at' with time expressions and then to use each prepositional time phrase in a sentence.

Preparation

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

Level

Elementary (A1-A2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this prepositions of time game, students play dominoes to practice the time prepositions: in, on, at.

Procedure

Divide the students into groups of three.

Give each group a set of dominoes. Students will also need a pen and paper for keeping score.

Ask the students to shuffle the dominoes and deal out five each, leaving the rest in a pile face down.

Tell the groups to pick up the top domino from the pile and put it face up on the table.

The first player puts down one of their dominoes on either side of the domino on the table, making sure that the preposition of time matches with the time expression or vice versa.

If the player matches the preposition of time successfully, he or she scores a point. For an extra point, the player then uses the prepositional time phrase in a sentence.

The other players then take it in turns to match their dominoes in the same way by putting them down at either end of the domino chain and making a suitable sentence when a prepositional time phrase is formed.

If a player cannot put down one of their dominoes, they take one from the top of the pile and put it down if they can.

If there are no dominoes left in the pile, play passes to the next student.

If another player thinks a preposition of time is matched incorrectly or a sentence is wrong, he or she can challenge the player.

If the students cannot agree, they ask the teacher for help.

If a prepositional time phrase is wrong, the player must take back the domino and play passes to the next student.

When a player has gotten rid of all their dominoes, the game ends. The students then add up their scores. The player with the most points wins the game.

Afterwards, the students can shuffle the dominoes and play again.

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|---------------|----|-------------|----|----------------------|----|
| night | in | 10 minutes | on | Christmas Day | at |
| 9 o'clock | in | 2012 | on | Friday | at |
| noon | in | winter | on | January 1st | at |
| 19:30 | in | the morning | on | my birthday | at |
| bedtime | in | a minute | on | the 1st of April | at |
| half past two | in | 1999 | on | Tuesday | at |
| midday | in | summer | on | the 14th of February | at |
| 7 o'clock | in | May | on | New Year's Eve | at |