

Activity Type

Grammar Game:
sentence building (group
work)

Focus

Affirmative and negative
sentences with the verb
'to be'

Subject-verb agreement

Aim

To practice making
affirmative and negative
sentences with the verb
'to be'.

Preparation

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

Level

Beginner (A1)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this verb 'to be' game, students practice building short affirmative and negative sentences with 'am', 'is' and 'are'.

Procedure

Divide the students into groups of three or four.

Give each group one set of cards and a piece of paper for keeping score.

Ask the students to place all the cards face down on the table and mix them up.

Players then take 15 cards each and place the remaining cards face down in a draw pile.

Next, players take turns making a sentence with their cards by putting three cards face up in a row on the table (subject + verb 'to be' + ending) and reading it aloud, e.g. 'I am a student.'

If the sentence is grammatically correct, the player scores one point, puts the three used cards into a discard pile and takes three cards from the draw pile.

If a player cannot make a sentence, they take a card from the top of the draw pile, put one of their cards at the bottom and miss a turn.

When there are fewer than three cards left in the draw pile, a player can take the remaining cards.

The game continues until players cannot make any more sentences.

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



I	You	We	They	He	She	It
I	You	We	They	He	She	It
I	You	We	They	He	She	It
I	You	We	They	He	She	It
am	are	are	are	is	is	is
am	are	are	are	is	is	is
am not	are not	are not	are not	is not	is not	is not
am not	are not	are not	are not	is not	is not	is not
a student	ten years old	students	children	in the park	in class	on the table
a teacher	sixteen years old	teachers	at school	outside	busy	new
early	young	happy	ready	tired	at home	in my bag
late	old	sad	here	hungry	cold	a phone