

Activity Type

Vocabulary and Speaking Game: miming, guessing, forming sentences, freer practice (pair work)

Focus

Classroom language

Imperatives

Aim

To practice or review commands and language used in class.

Preparation

Make one copy of the cards for each group of four and cut as indicated, keeping the two sets of cards separate. You will also need a dice for each group.

Level

Elementary (A1-A2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

Here is a fun classroom language game to help students practice or review commands and phrases used in class.

Procedure

Divide the students into groups of four.

Give each group a set of action cards, a set of 'What do you say?' cards, and a dice. Ask the students to shuffle each set of cards separately and place them face-down on the table in two piles. Each group will also need a timer or stopwatch.

Explain that the action cards contain classroom commands used by a teacher and the 'What do you say?' cards contain classroom language used by a student.

Next, split each group into two teams of two. Teams then take it in turns to roll the dice. If a team rolls an odd number (1, 3, 5), one student in the team picks up an action card, making sure not to show it to their teammate.

The student mimes the classroom command on the card to their teammate who has 30 seconds to say the command. If the student is successful, the team wins and keeps the card. If not, the other team has one chance to guess and win the card.

If a team rolls an even number (2, 4, 6), one student in the team picks up a 'What do you say?' card and reads the classroom situation written at the top of the card to their teammate who has 30 seconds to say the corresponding classroom language shown on the card.


If the student says the correct classroom language, the team wins and keeps the card. If not, the other team tries to guess the answer.

For both scenarios, if neither team manages to say the correct language, the card is removed from the game.

The game continues until all the cards have been used. If one type of card runs out, the teams stop rolling the dice and continue playing with just the remaining card type.

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

Afterwards, review the classroom language on cards that were discarded with the class.

Action cards

Put your hand up.

Write this down.

Open your book.

Turn to page...

Put away your books.

Stand up.

Look at the board.

Sit down.

Pay attention.

Come to the front of the class.

Turn off your phone.

Stop writing.

Work with a partner.

Close the door.

Listen to the recording.

Don't run.

Stop talking.

Turn off the lights.

Repeat after me.

Listen to me.

Close your book.

Work in groups.

Put your hand down.

Come in.

'What do you say?' cards


<p>You need a drink of water. (Can/May I get a drink of water, please?)</p>	<p>You want to know if a seat is free. (Can/May I sit here? / Is this seat free?)</p>
<p>You want to know about the homework. (What is the homework?)</p>	<p>Your pen has stopped working. (Can/May I borrow a pen, please?)</p>
<p>Your teacher asks if you can see the board. (Yes, I can. / No, I can't.)</p>	<p>You didn't hear what the teacher said. (Can you repeat that, please?)</p>
<p>It's hot in the classroom. (Can/May I open the window, please?)</p>	<p>You want to hear the recording again. (Can you play the CD again, please?)</p>
<p>Your chair is broken. (Can/May I change seats?)</p>	<p>You don't know what a word means. (What does this word mean?)</p>
<p>Your classmate says "Thank you." (You're welcome.)</p>	<p>The classroom is dark. (Can/May I turn on the lights, please?)</p>
<p>You want to know when the next lesson is. (When is the next lesson?)</p>	<p>You don't know how to spell a word. (How do you spell it?)</p>
<p>You want to go to the toilet. (Can/May I go to the toilet, please?)</p>	<p>You want to know if your work is correct. (Is this correct?)</p>
<p>You're late for class. (I'm sorry, I'm late. Can/May I come in, please?)</p>	<p>You want to ask a question. (I have a question. / Can/May I ask a question?)</p>
<p>You have to go to the school office during class time. (Can/May I go out, please?)</p>	<p>The teacher asks you if you have finished your work, but you need more time. (Sorry, I need more time.)</p>
<p>You don't know which page in the book to turn to. (What page are we on?)</p>	<p>The teacher asks you for your homework, but you haven't done it. (I'm sorry, I forgot to do my homework.)</p>
<p>You don't understand something the teacher has said. (Can you explain that again, please?)</p>	<p>You want to know when to hand in your homework. (When do I hand in my homework?)</p>