

Activity Type

Listening and speaking activity, group work

Focus

Past simple 'Wh' questions

Aim

To make past simple 'Wh' questions that elicit certain words and phrases.

Preparation

Make one copy of the question cards for every six students and cut as indicated. Copy and cut up one set of answer cards for each group of six. You will also need an envelope for each group.

Level

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

This entertaining card game is ideal for practicing past simple 'Wh' questions.

Procedure

Divide the class into groups of six. Groups of four or five are also possible.

Give each player a question card and give each group one set of shuffled answer cards in an envelope.

Explain that the aim of the game is to make past simple 'Wh' questions that elicit certain words or phrases written on answer cards.

One student takes an answer card from the envelope and reads it aloud.

The players in the group then race to make a past simple 'Wh' question using a question word from their card to elicit the word or phrase read out.

The first player to do this correctly takes the answer card and crosses off the question word on their card.

For example, if 'pizza' is read out, a player could use the question word 'What' from their card and make the question 'What did you eat for dinner?'

If two players ask a question at the same time, the other players decide which question is the best in terms of grammatical correctness or inventiveness.

Then, it's the next student's turn to take an answer card and read it aloud.

When a player has crossed off a question word, they cannot use that question word again.

The first player to cross off all their question words wins the game.

Question cards

What	When	What	When
Where	Who	Where	Who
Why	How	Why	How
Which	What colour	Which	What colour
How many	How much	How many	How much
What	When	What	When
Where	Who	Where	Who
Why	How	Why	How
Which	What colour	Which	What colour
How many	How much	How many	How much
What	When	What	When
Where	Who	Where	Who
Why	How	Why	How
Which	What colour	Which	What colour
How many	How much	How many	How much



Answer cards



a new phone	last year	I went home.	when I was twelve
in a bungalow	my girlfriend	I went to the cinema.	my sister
because I love you	by train	because I like it	on foot
the shorter one	orange	the nice one	red, white and blue
three	a little	ten	just one bottle
Tom Cruise	last week	a computer game	last night
at a party	my father	Thailand	my teacher
because I was hot	by boat	because it was funny	by car
I bought the blue one.	pink	the big one	black and white
3000	quite a lot	just one	not too much
pizza	a week ago	toast and coffee	two years ago
in my pocket	my best friend	in a restaurant	the doctor
because I was scared	by taxi	because I was hungry	by plane
I caught the 7:30 train.	green	the cheaper one	blue
100	a lot	seven	too much