

Activity Type

Grammar and Speaking
 Activity: information gap,
 asking and answering
 questions from prompts
 (pair work)

Focus

Past simple *Wh* questions
 and answers

Aim

To ask and answer past
 simple *Wh* questions
 in order to complete
 missing information in a
 chart.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two
 worksheets for each pair
 of students.

Level

Elementary (A1-A2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this past simple information gap activity, students ask and answer *Wh* questions in the past simple to complete missing information in a chart.

Procedure

Explain that the students are going to ask past simple *Wh* questions to a partner in order to complete missing information in a chart.

Draw an example chart on the board and elicit the past simple questions and answers from the prompts.

Example:

Terry	Monday
Where / go?	beach
What time / go there?	11 a.m.
How / go there?	by car
Who / go with?	Helen

Where did Terry go on Monday? He went to the beach.
 What time did he go there? He went there at 11 a.m.
 How did he go there? He went there by car.
 Who did he go with? He went with Helen.

Next, divide the students into pairs (Students A and B).

Give each student a corresponding worksheet.

Have the students sit facing their partners.

Tell the students not to show their worksheet to their partner.

Students then use the prompts on their worksheet to ask and answer the questions and complete the chart.

When the students have finished, they compare charts to check their answers.

Student A

Ask your partner past simple *Wh* questions to complete the missing information in the chart.

Example: A: Where did Roger go on Tuesday? B: He went to the 7-eleven.

Questions	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Roger  Where / go? When / go there? What / buy?	market afternoon flowers	..... ..... .....	post office morning stamps	..... ..... .....	corner shop evening beer
Vicky  Where / go? What time / go there? How / go there?	..... ..... .....	office 8 a.m. by car	..... ..... .....	shopping mall 6 p.m. by bus	..... ..... .....
Harry  Where / go? What / eat? Who / go with?	Mexican restaurant tacos girlfriend	..... ..... .....	coffee shop sandwich best friend	..... ..... .....	Italian restaurant pizza brother
Katie  Where / go? What / do there? Who / go with?	..... ..... .....	beach swim Emma	..... ..... .....	concert listen to music Vicky	..... ..... .....

Student B

Ask your partner past simple *Wh* questions to complete the missing information in the chart.

Example: B: Where did Roger go on Monday?

A: He went to the market.

Questions	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Roger  Where / go? When / go there? What / buy?	.....	7-eleven	.....	phone shop	.....
	.....	morning	.....	lunch-time	.....
	.....	bread	.....	SIM card	.....
Vicky  Where / go? What time / go there? How / go there?	gym	.....	cafe	.....	cinema
	7 a.m.	.....	1 p.m.	.....	8 p.m.
	by bicycle	.....	on foot	.....	by taxi
Harry  Where / go? What / eat? Who / go with?	.....	pub	.....	Chinese restaurant	.....
	.....	steak	.....	noodles	.....
	.....	Darren	.....	boss	.....
Katie  Where / go? What / do there? Who / go with?	park	.....	cinema	.....	gym
	play badminton	.....	watch action movie	.....	exercise
	Derek	.....	Michael	.....	Mary