

1B Sneaky speeches

Aim

to practise using the unit vocabulary

Activity type

a group activity to practise talking about a topic for 30 seconds

Classroom dynamics

groups of four or five

Time taken

10 minutes

Preparation

You will need one copy of the activity sheet per group, cut up into cards.

Procedure

- 1 Divide the class into groups of four or five and give each group a set of cards face down in a pile on the desk. Each group nominates one student to be the timekeeper and another to keep score.
- 2 Students take it in turns to take a card and silently read the phrase on it, without letting anyone else see. The student then has 30 seconds to speak about a subject of their choice, using the phrase on the card at some point. The aim is to 'sneak' their phrase past their classmates. The other students in the group try to guess what phrase is on the card. They can interrupt the talk at any time while the clock is ticking and make a guess. If they are correct they win a point, but if they are wrong, they lose a point and the speaker continues. If the speaker continues to the end of their 30 seconds and no one correctly guesses the words on the card, the speaker gets a point. It's then the turn of the next student.
- 3 Students take turns to repeat step 2 until all the cards have been used, or as time allows. At the end the winner is the student with the most points.

Adaptation and extension

- To make the activity more challenging, write a topic on the back of each card, i.e. on the side that is facing *up* in the pile, which the student must talk about.
- For a shorter game, reduce the number of cards. Ensure that all the students in the group still have an equal number of turns.

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a step too far	all things considered	at the forefront	be inclined to think
capture the public's attention	come to blows about	get cold feet	get stuck for words
get stung by	in retrospect	in the same breath	let alone
out of your comfort zone	play on ignorance	roll off the tongue	while I'm on the subject
pose a threat to	release tension	realise an ambition	exceed my expectations