

The balloon game

A fun way to introduce a new topic and to foster cooperation and team spirit.

- To energise students and foster cooperation / team spirit.
- To channel energy positively.
- The sentences are chosen to either revise a language area like word order or to set a task or question for the students to focus on a new topic/language area.

Procedure

- For a class of 30 students get 6 balloons.
- Cut up questions or sentences – taking into account their language level, for example:

Peter has regularly played tennis on Wednesdays.

If you won the lottery, how would you spend the money?

- Stuff the cut up bits of paper into each balloon (this is not difficult) and blow them up and tie them securely.
- Explain the activity clearly to the students.
- Divide class into 6 groups of 5 students.
- Each group chooses a runner.
- When the teacher says GO the runner runs up to their balloon, which is on the floor at the front of the classroom (with as much space made around it as possible).
- They must burst the balloon without using their hands or feet and pick up the pieces of paper inside.
- They return to their group and together must put the sentences(s)/ question(s) in the right order.
- The group who finishes first is the winner.
- If they have produced questions, the next step is to work together to answer the questions or discuss them.