

Activity Type

Grammar and Speaking Activity: forming, asking and answering questions from prompts, controlled and freer practice (group and pair work)

Focus

Present simple and present perfect

Aim

To practice forming, asking and answering questions in the present simple and present perfect tense.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each pair of students and cut as indicated.

Level

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

This present simple vs. present perfect speaking activity helps students practice forming, asking and answering conversation questions in the present simple and present perfect tense.

Procedure

Divide the students into two groups (A and B).

Give each student a corresponding worksheet.

First, students complete each conversation question in the present simple or present perfect using the verb in brackets.

Tell the students that there should be six present simple questions and six present perfect questions.

Afterwards, go through the questions with each group.

Answer key

Student A

1. do / play
2. do / go
3. have ever done
4. do / meet
5. have / learned
6. do / drink
7. have / moved
8. have / travelled
9. is
10. have / lived
11. do / get
12. have ever seen

Student B

1. have / tried
2. have / been
3. do / listen
4. have ever seen
5. do / do
6. has helped
7. do / check
8. have / lived
9. do / spend
10. have ever eaten
11. is
12. do / think

Next, students pair up with someone from the other group.

Students then take turns asking and answering the conversation questions with their partner, responding in the present simple or present perfect, according to the tense of each question.

Encourage students to follow up their questions with additional prompts like "Why?" or "Tell me more!" to keep the conversation flowing.

Afterwards, students share what they found out about their partner with the class. Any interesting findings can then be discussed in more detail.

Student A

A. Complete each conversation question in the present simple or present perfect using the verb in brackets.

1. What sports you usually (play) in your free time?
2. What time you normally (go) to bed on weekdays?
3. What is the scariest thing you (do)?
4. How often you (meet) your friends?
5. What new skill you (learn) recently?
6. How much water you usually (drink) every day?
7. How many times you (move) in your life?
8. Where you (travel) to in the past year?
9. What the most expensive thing you own?
10. How long you (live) in this town or city?
11. How you (get) to school or work?
12. What is the most beautiful place you (see)?



B. Now, take turns asking and answering the questions with your partner.



Student B

A. Complete each conversation question in the present simple or present perfect using the verb in brackets.

1. How many languages you (try) to learn?
2. Where you (be) this week?
3. What kind of music you (listen) to while studying?
4. What is the best movie you (see)?
5. What you usually (do) on weekends?
6. Who (help) you the most with your English studies?
7. How often you (check) your email?
8. How long you (live) in your house or apartment?
9. How much money you usually (spend) every day?
10. What is the most delicious food you (eat)?
11. What your favourite day of the week?
12. Which sport you (think) is the most interesting?



B. Now, take turns asking and answering the questions with your partner.