

Activity Type

Grammar and Speaking
Game: asking and
answering questions

Focus

Yes/no questions and
short answers

Aim

To ask and answer yes/
no questions.

Preparation

None

Level

Any

Time

15 minutes

Introduction

This engaging ESL game is ideal for practicing yes/no questions and short answers.

Procedure

First, review the yes/no question and short answer structure you want the students to practice.

Next, students put their heads down and close their eyes.

Walk around the class and touch one student on the shoulder.

That student has the virus.

Now, ask the students to open their eyes.

Students then go around asking each other yes/no questions using the structure you want them to practice, e.g. 'Can you ride a bicycle?'

Students must answer positively to each question, e.g. 'Yes, I can.'

The student with the virus must answer negatively, e.g. 'No, I can't.'

Any student, who asks the student with the virus a question, gets the virus and must also answer negatively.

The aim of the game is to avoid catching the virus.

After a few minutes, stop the game and see who survived.

Any students who didn't get the virus score a point.

Then, repeat the game with a different yes/no question structure and so on.

The student with the most points at the end of the game wins.