

Activity Type

Vocabulary and Speaking Games: matching, gap-fill, forming sentences, freer practice (group work)

Focus

Actions

Aim

To practice everyday action verbs.

Preparation

Make one copy of the cards for each group of four and cut as indicated. Keep the sentence cards and the action verb cards separate.

Level

Elementary (A1-A2)

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

Here are two action verbs games to help students practice everyday actions.

Procedure

Divide the students into groups of four.

Give each group a set of sentence cards and a set of verb cards.

Ask the students to shuffle the sentence cards and place them face-down in a pile on the table and to shuffle the action verb cards and spread them out face-up.

Students then take turns picking up a sentence card, reading it aloud and placing it face-up on the table.

Next, all the students race to find the correct action verb card to complete the sentence. When a student finds the right action verb card, they pick it up and read the complete sentence aloud.

If the other students agree the verb matches the sentence, the student wins and keeps the cards. If not, the student puts down the verb card, is out of the round and other students can answer.

The student with the most pairs of cards at the end wins.

Afterwards, check the answers as a class. There are two extra verb cards to make the game more challenging.

Answer key

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. walk | 9. buy | 17. wait |
| 2. cook | 10. call | 18. close |
| 3. give | 11. write | 19. watch |
| 4. drink | 12. speak | 20. open |
| 5. sleep | 13. study | 21. drive |
| 6. listen | 14. think | 22. carry |
| 7. read | 15. go | 23. eat |
| 8. laugh | 16. put | 24. clean |

Next, ask the students to shuffle the action verb cards and place them face-down on the table.

Students then take turns turning over an action verb card so it's visible to everyone. The other students then race to put up their hands and say a sentence using the action verb.

If a student makes a suitable sentence, they win and keep the card. If the sentence is incorrect, or if a student says a sentence before putting up their hand, they are out of the round, and the other students continue trying to come up with a sentence.

The student with the most cards at the end is the winner.



1. When it's sunny, I to work instead of taking the bus.

9. Anna's phone is broken, so she needs to a new one.

17. Derek has to often a few minutes for the bus to arrive.

2. Carl likes to delicious meals for his family.

10. Give me your phone number, and I'll you when your car is ready.

18. It's raining. We should the window so that things don't get wet.

3. Every year, my grandparents me money for my birthday.

11. The students always their names on their homework.

19. We went to the football match to my daughter play.

4. I two cups of coffee every day.

12. You should quietly in the library.

20. Could you help me this bottle?

5. Most people need to at least seven hours every night.

13. This weekend, I'm going to for my English exam.

21. It's difficult to in the city. There is always a lot of traffic.

6. I always to music while I do the housework.

14. I need to about it. Can I tell you tomorrow?

22. After shopping, I had to the bags home.

7. Maria tries to a new book each month.

15. Many people to school by bus.

23. It's important to breakfast every morning.

8. The film was very funny. It made me a lot.

16. Please the plates on the table.

24. After dinner, my family and I always the kitchen.



walk	study
cook	drive
eat	go
drink	clean
sleep	open
listen	close
read	watch
laugh	wait
buy	think
call	carry
write	give
speak	put
sit	stop