



Pic Tac Toe

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INTRO

This a great icebreaking lesson involving pictures, a game, creative sentence production & a drill to present or contrast verb tenses-excellent for present simple or continuous tenses.

SET UP

STEPS

1. Draw an empty grid 4 by 3 on the board and tell the students to copy it.

2. Then tell them to draw a boy and an ice cream in square 1. If they don't follow draw it yourself so they get the idea you're dictating pictures.

3. Have fun with the picture dictation and keep up a fast pace so they don't linger on details. Keep the descriptions spare:

"square 12, a man, a woman and a heart".

MODEL

When the pictures are finished explain the rules of the game.

STEPS

1. Play a little game of traditional tic tac toe with yourself on the board

2. Explain you're going to play a variation of tic tac toe where one square is worth 5 points and a row of 3 is worth a bonus 10

EXPLAIN THE RULES

1. All sentences in present simple or target tense.
2. No sentences shorter than 6 words.
3. Sentences must be correct.

MODEL AGAIN

Draw an example picture on the board and elicit a correct sentence using present tense(or target tense) i.e. "He plays pinball at the game center everyday".

-make sure the students understand the connection between the pictures and the sentences-the best way is by playing a little game with yourself on the board.

GAME

Then divide the students into 2, 3 or 4 teams of 4,5 or 6 students. Start walking around the class in a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction asking for sentences (this is a spoken exercise..no writing...students must orally present a correct sentence). If a team gets a correct sentence mark it on the board "Tic Tac Toe" style. Play until the whole board is filled up- not until someone gets "Tic Tac Toe".

REVIEW DRILL

Immediately after the game and before the energy recedes....select a good student and say

"You are present simple"

"I (the teacher) am present continuous"

Systematically start to work your way through the pictures.

Picture 1

Student : "The boy eats an ice cream"

Teacher: "The boy is eating an ice cream"

Picture 2

Student: "He drives his car in the rain"

Teacher: "He is driving his car in the rain"

etc.

Finally put the students in pairs to do the same.