Variety is the Spice of Life – as well as Grammar and Vocabulary Practice

Rob Dean    February / March 2023
Some Warmers...
A Warmer

Stand up if...
Stamp if...
Wave if...
Turn around 360 degrees if...
Clap your hands if...
Sit down if...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A fruit</th>
<th>Your first name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A colour</td>
<td>Your surname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A number between 1 and 200</td>
<td>Your age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A job beginning with the first letter of your name</td>
<td>Your job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A place you have never visited</td>
<td>Where you come from</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2 scraps of paper – 1 question* on each

Interesting question #1

Interesting question #2

* Questions for Rob
What’s your preference?

- tea or coffee
- spicy or mild
- Too hot or too cold
- Windows or Mac

Adapted from *Classroom Dynamics*, Hadfield
Lesson one

Number 9 (nine)

Question: Is this a tree?

Answer: Yes, this is a tree.

Number 10 (ten)

Question: Is this a ship?

Answer: Yes, it is.

Number 11 (eleven)

Question: Is this a ship?

Answer: No, it is not a ship;

it is a cigarette.

Number 12 (twelve)

Question: Is this a cigarette?

Answer: No, it is not a cigarette;

it is a horse.
<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Who</td>
<td>lives</td>
<td>in the yard?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. What</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>for birds?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Who</td>
<td>helps</td>
<td>me to clean the flat?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Who</td>
<td>comes up</td>
<td>to the basket?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Who</td>
<td>played</td>
<td>in the yard?</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Whose dog</td>
<td>puts</td>
<td>the last kitten into the box?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Whose fruit-trees</td>
<td>grow</td>
<td>in the garden?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The cat lives in the yard.
2. Grapes are for birds.
3. They help me to clean the flat.
4. The dog comes up to the basket.
5. The children played in the yard.
6. My dog puts the last kitten into the box.
7. My fruit trees grow in the garden.
PRACTICE Activities…

Adaptable for age and level
Adaptable for language area and topic
Interactive and communicative
Personalised / meaningful
Minimal preparation
The Trouble with Grammar

- illogical
- difficult
- abstract
- invisible
Making Grammar Visible

What’s changed?
Look at your partner for 60 seconds.

Turn around and look away from your partner

Change three things about your appearance

Look at your partner again and try to spot the differences

Result?

Present perfect made visual, kinaesthetic, personalised, memorable – and fun.
4 True; 1 False

1. I’ve visited 68 countries.
2. I’ve been offered guinea pig to eat (whole) in Peru.
3. I’ve travelled on the flight deck of a Boeing 767.
4. I’ve had my own show on Polish local radio.
5. I’ve owned a double decker bus.
5 True; 1 False
Talk to your classmates and find somebody who… Think about what question forms you will need to use. Write down the name of the person who matches what you’re looking for!

1. can sing
2. can tell a joke
3. can type quickly
4. doesn’t own a watch
5. has been in a hot air balloon
6. has been to a museum recently
7. has broken their leg
8. has climbed a mountain
9. has got a picture of their family in their bag or purse
10. has got long hair
11. has made a video call with their mobile phone
12. has never been to a wedding
13. has never used a computer
Write down the name of someone you know who...

Kasia
Beata
Sтеfan
Jacek
Ania
Write down the name of someone you know who…

- Laughs a lot
- Is working very hard at the moment
- Enjoys talking a lot
- Is learning a new skill at the moment
- Doesn’t like spinach
What did you do at the weekend?

I sleep...
<p>| | | |</p>
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</table>

**Bingo**

sleep  
go  
eat  
swim  
have  
bring  
buy  
cut  
catch  
sing  
take  
get  
begin  
build  
drink
What did you do at the weekend?

I sleep...
Easily confused words:

- lend / borrow
- make / do
- job / work
Do you have a part time job?

What time do most people start work in your country?

Have you ever applied for a holiday job?

Would you like to work for a foreign company?

Do either of your parents work from home?

Do you know anybody who has a really good job?
It’s not just the content words that can be troublesome…

Rob he like tabouleh

Rob he no like bananas
Buzz likes bananas…

cheese
apples
milk
cake
crisps
hamburgers

pizza
oranges
biscuits
fish
chips
cherries
Words don’t exist in isolation

- fish and chips
- salt and pepper
- take a photo
- have a haircut
- get on the bus
What collocates with…

Points

10 demand
8 and justify your
6 and decisive
5 and defend your
4 and spring into
2 and plan of

action
Family Fortunes
Something you might catch

1. [Blank]
2. [Blank]
3. [Blank]
4. [Blank]
5. [Blank]
6. [Blank]

http://www.quizpub.co.uk/Family-Fortunes-quiz.htm
listen to Spotify
watch YouTube videos
play on the X-Box
go on a sleepover
collect Instagram ‘friends’
do nothing
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>A</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Random Pelmanism

Take twelve scraps of paper
Write one word (noun) on each scrap
Turn them face down
Take turns to reveal any two words
Connect them with a comparison
If comparison is valid, pick up the cards
The player with the most cards at the end wins.
Objects in a room

Furniture, belongings and prepositions of place
Challenges…

Can you:

• Rotate your arms in different directions at the same time?

• Pat your head and rub your stomach?

• Fly a plane?
Games in the classroom?

Provide natural opportunities for repetition of language

Develop strategy / critical thinking skills

Can be motivating

Can contribute to the linguistic aims of the lesson
PRACTICE Activities…

Adaptable for age and level
Adaptable for language area and topic
Interactive and communicative
Personalised / meaningful
Minimal preparation
Thank you

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