

Alibi

This activity requires students to use past tense and reported speech. The class is told that there has been a crime committed. The crime can be anything from a bank robbery to a murder. Then tell the students that two suspects have been apprehended by the police, but they both deny their involvement and claim to have been together at the time the crime occurred. Two students from the class are then selected to be the suspects and are told to leave the room. Once out of the classroom the two suspects work together to formulate an alibi.

While the two suspects are out of the room, the remaining students must decide what questions to use during the interrogation. The questions should be wh~ questions and there should be at least one question per student. After a list of questions has been decided on, the suspects are brought back into the classroom one at a time. They are then questioned by their classmates. Each student in the class should ask one wh~ question.

During the interrogation process there should be one student selected to record the answers of each suspect. When the students have finished questioning the first suspect, he/she is taken back outside and the second suspect is brought into the classroom. The second suspect is then asked the same questions as the first. When finished the second suspect is taken back outside. The students in the classroom then compare the answers given by both suspects and note any discrepancies. The two suspects are then brought back into the class and questioned again to find out why there are discrepancies in their stories. Once the students have finished this round of questions the class votes on the guilt or innocence of the two suspects.