

Vocabulary Board Game

This game is great for practicing vocabulary, and there is very little preparation required. The first thing you need to do is draw a big rectangle on the board. Then divide the rectangle into as many squares as there are students in the class. So, if you have 20 students you would have a rectangle with 5 boxes across and 4 down. Then put the students into groups. The number of groups will depend on how many students are in your class. I always try to have at least 4 groups. After dividing the class have each student give you a word to put in his or her box. This word can be any vocabulary item that you have studied, or it can be all verbs, or all adjectives, or whatever. When you have gone through the entire class you should have one word in each box.

Now that there is a word in each box ask one person in group 1 to pick a box and make a complete sentence using the word in the box that he/she chooses. They almost never pick the word that they gave you. If they are able to make a grammatically correct sentence their team gets the box. If they are not able to make a sentence that is grammatically correct you can either ask the next group to make a sentence using that word or open it up to anyone in any group. Then choose someone from group 2 and do the same thing. The group that has won the most boxes at the end of the game wins.

One of the ways that I use this game is to practice verb tenses. When I ask the students to give me a word for their box I always write the simple present form of the verb in the box. Then when the students use the verb in a sentence they must change the form to whatever tense we have been studying. So, for example, if we have been studying the present continuous and the verb is walk, the student would have to use the present continuous(~ to be + walking) in order to win the box for his or her team.