

How well do you know your partner?

Activity Type

Grammar and Speaking Game: guessing, sentence completion, asking and answering questions from prompts (pair work)

Focus

Past simple and present perfect

Aim

To practice past simple and present perfect sentences and questions.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this past simple vs. present perfect game, students see how well they know a partner by completing sentences about them in the past simple and present perfect and then verifying the information by asking and answering questions.

Procedure

Divide the students into pairs.

Give each student a copy of the worksheet.

Tell the students that they are going to see how well they know their partner by completing sentences about them in the past simple or present perfect.

Working alone, students then complete sentences about their partner in the past simple or present perfect using the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Examples:

1. James started learning English in 1990.
2. James has had his mobile phone for six months.

Next, elicit the past simple and present perfect questions the students need to ask to find out if their sentences are correct.

Examples:

1. When did you start learning English?
2. How long have you had your mobile phone?

Students then take turns asking and answering the questions in the past simple or present perfect to find out how many of their sentences are right.

Students score themselves one point for each correct sentence.

The student with the highest score wins the game.

Afterwards, get feedback from the students to see how well they know their partner and find out who got the highest score.

How well do you know your partner?

A. Complete the sentences about your partner in the past simple or present perfect using the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

1. (start) learning English in
2. (have) his/her mobile phone for
3. (eat) for dinner last night.
4. (know) his/her best friend for
5. (come) to class by/on
6. (be) awake since
7. (go) to last weekend.
8. (live) in his/her current house/apartment for
9. (clean) his/her bedroom last
10. (not buy) any new clothes since
11. (drink) coffee
12. (live) in this city/town for
13. (get) his/her hair cut last
14. (not be) on holiday for
15. (do) some exercise last

B. Now, take turns asking and answering questions in the past simple or present perfect to find out how many of your sentences are correct.

Examples:

