

SESSION: Grammar Games and Activities

Date: 27 November 2016

Time: (1.5 hour)

Learning Outcomes: By the end of this session participants will be able to:

- Apply different games to practice grammar in their classes.

Materials: whiteboard and marker

Procedures:

Step 1: Warm-Up-Elephant/Tree/Boat -----15 min

Participants stand in a circle, with one person standing in the middle. The person in the middle will point to one of the participants and say either elephant, tree, or boat. For elephant, the person must make the image of an elephant trunk with his/her arms and the people to either side of the elephant trunk will create the image of ears by creating the shape of ears with their arms, attaching them to the trunk by standing as a trio. For boat, the person must create the image of a sailor holding a telescope, looking out to sea and those to either side of the boat would begin to row, making an overall image of a three sailors at sea in a boat. For tree, the person makes the image of a tree, with arms up above the head like a palm tree and the participants on either side pretend to climb the tree for coconuts.

If anyone doesn't make the appropriate image in the correct span of time, or makes the wrong image, then whomever makes the mistake must go in the middle and then begins calling out the words and pointing to the participants in the circle.

Step 2: Teaching Grammar Through Communication and Examples ----- 20 min

One of the best ways to teach grammar is through examples, the communicative approach. What is the difference between these two presentations of grammar?

Present Verb Tenses – Grammar Table	Vs.	Present Verb Tenses – Communicative Approach
I go – I am going You go – you are going He/she goes – he/she is going We go – We are going They go – They are going		Alice: Hi Fatima, where are you going ? Fatima: I'm going to school right now. I go to school every day. Where are you going ? Alice: Me, I'm going to the football field. I play football on Saturdays.

Look at the two dialogues. What are the grammar topics presented in these two dialogues?

Dialogue 1:

Kelsey: Excuse me, could I see that necklace?

Karim: Which one, this one?

Kelsey: No, that one over there. The gold one with a blue stone.

Karim: This one?

Kelsey: Yes. Hmm...this is nice. How much is it?

Karim: That one is \$100. It comes with those earrings.

Kelsey: These earrings? They're beautiful! I'll take them!

Karim: Okay! This necklace and these earrings will look very nice!

Dialogue 2:

Hadidja: Help! I just saw a thief!

Jess: Where? I can barely see. It's very dark outside.

Hadidja: I saw him walking slowly by the window!

Jess: Are you sure? I'm listening carefully and I can't hear anything...

Hadidja: I'm pretty sure. Well, I'm almost sure.

Jess: Look closely! Fortunately there is no thief. It's just a shadow in a tree!

Step 3: Game 1- Verb Spree -----15 min

Divide students into groups of 4-5. Distribute dice and verb cards to each group.

Taking turns, each member of the group will draw a verb card and roll the dice.

They will then perform the action based on the following:

1 – act it!

2 – draw it!

3 – Make a positive and negative sentence in simple present

4 – Make a positive and negative sentence in simple past

5 – Make a positive and negative sentence in present continuous

6 – Choose!

Have groups play game for 10-15 mins.

At the end, ask – how do we adapt this game for other topics?

Step 4: Game 2- Concentration-----20 min

Draw a blank grid on the board. Keep a copy of the filled-in grid on a piece of paper. Divide the class into groups of four or five. Each team takes turns calling out two numbers, trying to make a match between subject and object pronouns, or subject and possessive pronouns, etc. As the team calls out the numbers, write the word that corresponds to that square on the board. If the words are a match, draw a line through the words, but leave them on the grid, and give that team a point and an extra turn. If it is not a match, erase the words.

1. I	2. ours	3. theirs	4. you (singular)	5. they
6. she	7. we	8. you (plural)	9. its	10. he
11. it	12. mine	13. yours	14. hers	15. his

At the end, ask – how do we adapt this game for other topics?

Step 5: Practice ----- 30 mins

Divide students into groups of 2-3. Give each group a grammar topic. Have each group either develop a game or a dialogue to teach their concept.

Grammar topics:

Adverbs

Adjectives (placement)

Simple Present (positive and negative)

Simple Past (positive and negative)

Present Perfect (positive and negative)

Present Continuous (positive and negative)

Future Tense (positive and negative)

Modal Verbs (may/could/can/must/etc.)

Numbers (1, 2, 3) vs. Ordinal Numbers (first, second, third)

Possessives (my/your/his/hers/our/their)

Articles (using a/an/the/some)

Comparative/Superlative (big, bigger, biggest, etc.)

Prepositions of Time (at/about/for/in/on/to)

Verb infinitive/Two verbs in one sentence (I like TO dance... etc.)

Interrogative Forms in English (How to ask questions)

Demonstratives (this/that/those/these)

Verbs for Verb game:

To be	To have	To study	To eat
To drink	To go	To wake up	To write
To dance	To think	To take	To watch
To read	To learn	To teach	To make
To cook	To play	To understand	To feel
To sleep	To say	To talk	To enter
To climb	To hope	To call	To open