How Many Are There? Speaking Games

Game 1
Ask your partner “How many… are there…?“ questions about their own house, bag, family, town, etc, like those in the table on the next page. You get one point for each time they answer “I don’t know”. Each question must be about a different thing and a different place. If there is no such place, e.g. because your partner doesn’t have a brother, you don’t get any points. If they do know the answer, they should say it in a full sentence (e.g. “There are three cafés in the airport”), and you don’t score a point.

Game 2
Change partners. Think of a “How many… are there…?” question that you can guess the answer of. Secretly write that number down on some scrap paper, without anyone seeing. Ask the question. If that person says the number that you wrote, you get that many points. For example, if you write “100” and they said “There are 100 books in my bedroom” when you asked them “How many books are there in your bedroom?”, you get 100 points. If they answer with a different number or they say “I don’t know”, you get no points.

Game 3
Ask personal “How many… are there…?” questions to find things in common with your partner. If their number is the same as your number, you score one point. You must use full sentences when you answer the questions.

Game 4
Ask personal “How many… are there…?” questions to find things in common with your partner. If your number is bigger than their number, you score one point. You must use full sentences when you answer the questions.

Written by Alex Case for UsingEnglish.com © 2016
Suggested How many are there questions
*Some questions don’t need the words not in bold (“that” etc)*

| How many | ... are there in on under next to near in front of behind | that the the nearest this this building’s this room’s this school’s your your aunt’s your brother’s your coach’s your cousin’s your dad’s your daughter’s your dentist’s your doctor’s your grandfather’s your grandmother’s your house’s your mum’s your music teacher’s your school teacher’s your sister’s your son’s your sports teacher’s your uncle’s - | airport bag bathroom bedroom body bookshelves box Britain building car China city/ town classroom country cupboard/ closet/ wardrobe dining room downstairs floor/ carpet fridge/ refrigerator garden gym hall/ corridor home/ house Japan kitchen library locker noticeboard pocket(s) roof school school classroom South Korea street/ road Taiwan Thailand The United States wall wallet/ purse whiteboard zoo |

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