

Variation

You can make more quiz sheets by using errors that come up in students' written homework. Don't mark the homework. Lift out 16 mistaken sentences, re-write half of them correctly and mix them up with the uncorrected sentences, so you have a fully student-centred grammar quiz sheet. Do the quiz in the normal way. Then give back the unmarked homework and ask them to find each other's mistakes.

Acknowledgement

The format of this quiz is an adaptation of the format used in the British TV programme 'Mr and Mrs'.

Quiz sheet on verb usage

- 1 Do you like something to drink now?
- 2 Let me pay your dinner.
- 3 The general dead yesterday.
- 4 Would you like to come through, please?
- 5 I really like cycling in the rain.
- 6 We want you to feel at home here.
- 7 Are you born in 1965?
- 8 I can to help you, I think.
- 9 Did you listen the concert?
- 10 I like very much reading.
- 11 I am born in Cardiff.
- 12 They listened the radio.
- 13 We can probably do it for you.
- 14 She wants that you understand.
- 15 Did you pay the car in cash?
- 16 Would you like coming to the cinema?

I.8 Find who

GRAMMAR: Past simple active/passive
 LEVEL: Lower-intermediate
 TIME: 20 minutes
 MATERIALS: One completion sheet per student

In class

- 1 Go through any vocabulary from the completion sheet that the group may find hard.
- 2 Give each student a completion sheet. Tell them the object of the game is to find people in the group who had done to them or did the various things on the completion sheet. So student A might ask student B 'Were you conceived in December?' If B says 'yes', then A can write down B's name on his or her sheet next to:
 was conceived in December
- 3 Tell the students that the winner is the person who gets *most names soonest*.
- 4 Get the students standing up and milling – encourage a cocktail party atmosphere with quick changes of partner – impose a fast rhythm by yourself darting round asking questions to fill in your own completion sheet. The game forces speed and the courage to be rude in the target language.
- 5 Finish the game off by putting the students in a circle and asking:
 Who did you find who was conceived in December?
 Who did you find who was born at home?
 etc.

What structures can you use 'Find who' for?

I have successfully used it for practice of future tenses, present simple (habits), present perfect (achievements/failures), mixed tense practice and practice of the simple past of irregular verbs, e.g.:

Competitive games

Find a person who, when aged between 3 and 10...

rode a bike

bit his or her father

broke his or her leg

had mumps

clung to his or her mother on the first day of school

fought other children a lot

slept in the afternoon, etc.

In constructing your own completion sheets round a given structure for a group you know, make sure that most of the sentences will have a person from the group attachable to them. Don't put in sentences that require no search at all, e.g. in the week after your national football cup final do not give a group of 14 year-old boys a completion like '...who has recently watched a football match'.

Avoid competitions that stress embarrassing socio-economic differences between students.

Acknowledgement

I was first taught this exercise by Jim Brims and later found it suggested in Gertrude Moskowitz's *Caring and sharing in the foreign language class* (Newbury House, 1978). Both Brims and Moskowitz propose the exercise principally as an ice-breaker – here I am suggesting it for rapid, speed practice of a given pattern.

Find who

Completion sheet: Past simple active and passive (You need 1 per student.)

Name(s)

Find a person who...

..... was conceived in December

..... was born at home

..... was born in June

..... was breast-fed

..... liked carrots as a child

..... was looked after for three months by a grandmother or an aunt

..... was sent to kindergarten at the age of 2

..... was an only child

..... was sent to school at 5½

..... was forced to eat fish

..... was made to clean his/her teeth

..... had more than 15 cousins

..... was dressed-up for Sundays/feast days

..... was spanked for stealing apples/yams/grapes

..... disliked birthdays

..... was given a bike at the age of 6

..... was often made to stand in the corner

..... was caught smoking at 7

..... was sent away for holidays

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