

COMMUNICATION

Talking about games

LEVEL

Intermediate (B1)

NUMBER

En_B1_3061X

LANGUAGE

English



Learning outcomes

- I can talk about the games I enjoy and why they appeal to me.
- I can talk about games I used to play as a child.



Warm-up

**Name a board game
you used to play as a
child.**



**What do you remember
about it?**

Do you know these popular games?

1. **Match** the game with the correct description.
2. **Type** the games you've played before in the chat.

Chess

Blackjack

UNO

Scrabble

A

What you have to do in this popular casino card game is to collect cards that total more points than the dealer's hand without going over 21!

B

The point of this game is to get rid of all your cards. Basically, the way it works is that you play a card with the same colour, symbol, or number of the card that is on the discard pile. If you can't play your card, then you must draw one from the deck.

C

There are two sets of 16 pieces. The game is played on a square board with 8 rows and 8 columns. Basically, the way it works is that each player moves around the board and tries to capture the opponent's pieces. You win by capturing the other player's king.

D

The goal of this game is to score as many points as possible by creating words on the board. The game ends when a player has used up all their letter tiles or if no one can create any new words.

Categorise the games

1. Which of the games do you think are **games of chance**?
2. Which of the games do you think are **strategy games**?

1 Chess

2 Blackjack

3 UNO

4 Scrabble

What is another **strategy game**?

What is another **game of chance**?

Games of chance

Strategy games



Discuss

Answer the question below.

Games of chance or strategy games?

Which do you prefer? Why?





Abilities

1. **Complete** the sentences below in breakout rooms or together as a class.
2. Can you **think** of any other abilities that are useful when playing games?

1 I don't get nervous under pressure. I'm _____.

2 I can make decisions quickly. I'm good at _____.

3 I am good at physically understanding and reacting to my visual senses. I have good _____.

4 People can never tell if I'm lying or not in card games. I'm good at _____.

5 I'm willing to lose it all if I know that I might win big. I'm a _____.

a. bluffing

b. hand-eye coordination

c. risk-taker

d. cool-headed

e. thinking on my feet



Find out about your classmates

Complete the prompts in the red boxes.

1. Choose a
classmate

2. Ask them about
their abilities

3. What game
would your
classmate be good
at? Why?



What are your abilities?

*I'm good at bluffing. I'm also good at
thinking on my feet!*

Hmm, I think you'd be good at...

cool-headed
thinking on my feet
hand-eye coordination
bluffing
risk-taker



Discuss

Answer the question below.

**How can you tell if
someone is bluffing?**

**Share your tips with the rest of
the class!**





Categorise

Categorise the phrases into one of the boxes below.



the next thing you
do is...

the most
important thing is
to...

the goal/aim is for
you to...

the key is to...

basically, the way
it works is that...

the point is to...

what you have to
do is...

first,/next,/after
that,/finally you...

**Explaining the aim
of the game:**

**Emphasising an
important point:**

**Describing different
steps:**



Explain a game

1. **Think** of a game you used to play as a child.
2. **Explain** how the game works to your classmates.
3. **Use** the phrases below.

the next thing
you do is...

what you have
to do is...

basically, the
way it works is
that...

the most
important
thing is to...

the key is to...

first,/next,/after
that,/finally,
you...

the point is
to...

the goal/aim is
for you to...



Games, games, and more games!

1. **Read** the different types of games
2. Which ones do you **enjoy**?
3. Which ones **don't you like**?

video games

escape room

quiz games

PC games

sports

role-playing games

card games

single-player games

dice games

multi-player games



Let's play a game!

It's time to play a game!

1. This game has **3 steps**.
2. **Write** down notes on a piece of paper.
3. So, let's get started! **Complete** Step 1.



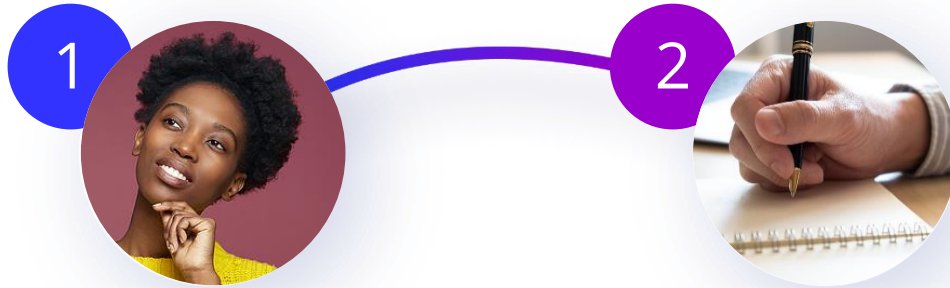
Step 1:

Think of a game you like to play or watch.



Let's play a game!

Complete Step 2.



Step 2:

Write down notes about how to play the game by answering some of the questions in the blue box.



- How many players can play?
- What is the aim of the game?
- What are some of the important points to know when playing the game?
- What are some steps to know when playing the game?
- What abilities would make someone a good player of this game?



Let's play a game!

Complete Step 3.



Step 3:

Take turns describing
your game to the class.



**Don't say the name of
the game!**

Take turns guessing.



End of the lesson

Idiom

Don't be such a sore loser!

Meaning: a sore loser is someone who gets upset when they lose a game

Example: Ah, c'mon. It's just a game. Don't be such a sore loser!



Additional practice



Match the sentences

Match the beginnings on the left to the ends on the right.

1 Jean has a great poker face, I never...

2 My husband is really cool-headed and...

3 I'm a real risk-taker...

4 I definitely think playing video games can...

5 Rita is good at thinking on her feet and...

a so I love blackjack but I often go bust.

b she can react to things quickly.

c he never panics so I think he'd be good in an escape room.

d know when she is bluffing.

e improve your hand-eye coordination.



Categorise the sentences

Which game is each sentence describing?



1

The aim is to score goals.

2

Next, you try to make words from your letters.

3

First of all, you get tiles with letters on.

4

To start, you get two cards.

5

The goal is to win points.

6

Basically, you kick the ball around the pitch.

7

First, you get into teams of 11.

8

Then, you can ask for more cards.

9

The most important thing is to not go bust.

Football

Blackjack

Scrabble



Suggest a game

What game would you suggest for the people below?

A six-year old who needs to improve their hand-eye coordination

An older person who enjoys strategy games and is a risk-taker

A teenager who needs to learn to be more cool-headed





Playing games

Answer the questions with a partner.

Do you think playing games can help you learn English?



What kind of games could you play in an English classroom?



Answer key

P.4: A: Blackjack; B: UNO; C: Chess; D: Scrabble

P.5: *Suggested answers*

Games of chance: Blackjack, UNO

Strategy games: Chess, Scrabble

P.7: 1.) d 2.) e 3.) b 4.) a 5.) c

P.10: *Suggested answers*

Explaining the aim of the game:

- the goal/aim is for you to...
- basically, the way it works is that...
- what you have to do is...
- the point is to...

Emphasising an important point:

- the most important thing is to...
- the key is to...

Describing different steps:

- the next thing you do is...
- first,/next,/after that,/finally, you...

P. 19: 1.) d 2.) c 3.) a 4.) e 5.) b

P. 20: Football – 1, 6, 7; Blackjack – 4, 8, 9; Scrabble: 2, 3, 5



Summary

Describing **skills** and **abilities** for **playing games**:

- bluffing, hand-eye coordination, risk-taker, cool-headed, thinking on your feet

Describing **how** to **play games**:

- the goal/aim is to..., the key is to..., the point is to...
- what you have to do is..., basically, the way it works is that..., the most important thing to do is
- the next thing you do is...

Describing **types** of **games**:

- game of chance
- strategy game



Vocabulary

board game

game of chance

strategy game

bluffing

hand-eye coordination

risk-taker

cool-headed

thinking on your feet



Notes

