**German Workshop – Speaking**

**13th October, 2008**

**Phone conversations**

Passed phone round and when it stops, teacher has conversation with the person holding the phone.

Works well if done as a one-off for fun but students pass it on quickly to make sure it doesn’t land on them!

**How can you use a song or a poem to teach grammar?**

For example, the “my week” poem.

1. After they have learned the poem off by heart, ask them how you would say “I play football”, for example.
2. Give a few pupils a card with a word written on and ask them to stand in normal word order.
3. Then add “Am Montag” to the sentence (1 more child with a card goes up) and get the pupils to reorder themselves.
4. Then explain the grammar rule and get the pupils to come up with more examples of their own (using months, seasons, etc.)
5. Get them to write in their planners to practice the rule.

Always teach grammar in context.

**Speaking game**

Class divided into two teams. Ask someone from one team then another for a word on a given topic (e.g. pets), if they take too long to answer, the other team gets a point. Or can form a sentence one word at a time on a given topic, e.g. “Was ich am Wochenende gemacht habe.” Team A: ich, Team B: habe, Team A: Fußball, Team B: gespielt, etc.

**Role Plays**

Can often work better without prompts (see Swedish sheet).

**Observations from video extract on speaking session (teacherstv.net)**

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| Speaking activities | Assessment for Learning | Classroom Management |
| Scaffolding – gradually removed  Desks arranged to facilitate ease of movement in role-play activities. | Peer target setting  Teacher asked pupils why she was asking them to assess the 2 doing the role play.  Lesson very independent – teacher did not do any assessment.  NC levels addressed – what did they do at a certain curriculum level and what do they need to improve/go up to next level? | Lots of praise – positive about dialogues with phrases such as “What can they do to make it *even* better?”  Moved the table s to the side of the room and chairs in rows down the middle for “speed dating”.  Moved from task to task quickly. Tasks short.  Told the class when she was going to speak German and when English.  Enthusiastic and animated teacher. |

**How can you make role plays more exciting?**

* Brainstorm adjectives and conditions (sad, headache, etc.) and places and get the pupils to role play in that mood, with a headache, in a certain place (dancing in disco, quietly in church, at a tennis match looking left and right).
* Change the context – shopping or daily routine but pretend you are David Beckham.

Once a year only – get a colleague to dress up outrageously then burst into the classroom half way through the lesson and shout “Hände hoch oder ich schiesse!”, take your wallet and leave the room – pupils then get in pairs and describe the robber as the police are on their way and would like to take a statement.