

Say it However You Can! (Taboo)

Activity is best done once students have been exposed to the lesson's vocabulary. The purpose of this activity is to have students think of other ways to convey their message if they are ever at a loss for words. Activity takes about 15-20 minutes.

Material:

- Choose 40 vocabulary words and write 10 words from your list on each square, four squares total on a chart. So that you do not mix the sets, make each chart set a different color.

10 words	10 words
10 words	10 words

- Timer

Procedure:

1. Divide the class into groups of 4.
2. Give each student a card facing down. Student can only look at their card once it's their turn.
3. Have students decide who goes 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th in their group.
4. All groups will start at the same time. To ensure everyone has the same amount of time, only the persons whose turn it is, may look at their card.
5. Each student will have 1 minute to consult their card when it is their turn. They can look up any unknown words and think about how they are going to word their hints/clues. Everyone else should be quiet and studying the lessons vocabulary during this process. Double check that ONLY the student whose turn it is, is looking at their card.
6. After the minute is up, the student has 3 minutes to describe all 10 words in the target language to their group. They cannot use their hands or point at objects. Only the target language should be used. Make sure to notify students that some gestures might be misinterpreted or that they do not translate equally, for these reasons, gestures should be avoided.
7. After time is up, repeat steps 6 and 7 until all students have gone.

*Instructor should be taking time and monitoring students making sure they do not use English or their hands.

Conversation Starters

Activity is best done when reviewing a topic or lesson. The purpose of this activity is to have students carry out a conversation for 3-10 minutes each. Activity takes about 6-20 minutes.

The 1st time this activity is done, it can be done for 3 minutes and then progressively add 2 minutes every time it is done, working up to 10 minutes.

Material:

- Instructor should make a question bank for students to rely on in case they run out of topics to discuss. Make about 10 to 20 cards using business card layout.
- Instructor writes interrogative words on the board for students to refer to.

Procedure:

1. Pair up students and have them face one another. Place the stack of cards in front of one of the students.
2. One student will control the stack of cards, pick up a card and ask their partner a question. Student should probe their partner to get more detail using interrogative words written on the board. The point to this activity is to keep the conversation going for as long as possible without picking up another card.
3. Once the desired time is up, students will switch roles and the cards will be controlled by the other student. Repeat steps 1-3.

*For beginners, instructor can simply write verbs on the card and have students create questions that force students to repeat the verbs.

For example: *to work*

Do you work?

Where do you work?

When do you work?

At what time do you work?

How many hours do you work?

* For intermediate, instructor can make question focusing on tenses covered.

*For advanced, instructor can ask students to prepare for homework questions the day before. Then instructor can review questions before the activity, to make any correction that might be needed.