

Activities with Say, Tell, Speak & Talk

SPEAKING ACTIVITY : Consequences

Level: Intermediate+

Language required: imperative form, suggestions, parting words and reported speech with 'say' & 'tell'

To practice using **say** and **tell** using reported speech you could try a version of the game of *Consequences*. In this game the idea is that students write a short dialogue between two people without seeing what the other person has written by folding over the paper and passing it on to someone else after each exchange.

Instructions:

- 🌀 Put the students into pairs (or it could also be possible in small groups up to 4)
- 🌀 Explain the idea that they will collaborate to write a short dialogue while only seeing half of the dialogue.
- 🌀 Elicit some examples of ways of giving **instructions** (imperative form), **suggestions** (should, let's, why don't you... etc) and **parting words** (I'm afraid I have to go..., Look at the time, I must hurry...)
- 🌀 Make sure they each have a '*Consequences Dialogue*' sheet
- 🌀 Explain that they will each fill in the first part (giving a name and description to their character) and then fold over the paper so what they've written can't be seen then swap papers and continue with the dialogue.
- 🌀 Demonstrate how it works using silly examples to encourage them not to take it too seriously
- 🌀 Tell them the result will be funnier if they don't peak at what was written before!
- 🌀 When the dialogue is complete swap over one more time and they can each read out what was written. Here they must use **reported speech**.
For example, if her instruction was "Turn off the light, my dear!" they would read it out as *She told him fondly to turn off the light*
- 🌀 Share (some of) the dialogues with the class – using reported speech.

GAME: Say, Tell, Speak, Talk Dominoes

Level: Intermediate+

Language required: Forms, meanings and uses of **say, tell, speak** and **talk**, question and negative forms in different tenses.

This game practices using all four verbs. Students need to be able to use the correct grammatical forms and understand the subtle differences in meaning.

Instructions:

- 🌀 Cut out the cards into pairs.
- 🌀 Divide the class into small groups of 3 or 4 players
- 🌀 Players shuffle cards and deal out an equal number to each player
- 🌀 The player to the right of the dealer starts by placing down one card.
- 🌀 Other players in turn try to add a card to complete a sentence. If they can't they miss a go.
- 🌀 The first player to use up all their cards is the winner.

WRITING ACTIVITY

The students write a story or article (approx. 250 words) using the verbs *say, tell, speak* and *talk* at least once each, choosing one of the titles below. It's important that they include examples of **direct** and **indirect speech**.

- 🌀 The Incredible Lesson
- 🌀 The Best Man's Speech
- 🌀 How to become fluent in English
- 🌀 A strange day at the office.