

## Word Sequences

**Level:** A1.1

**Age:** 6-9

**Organization:** whole class, individual, pairs

**Aims:** To logically deduce the pattern in word sequences; to practise writing familiar words; to write a word sequence for a partner to complete.

**Language focus:** *In the example:* clothes

*Alternatives:* any other familiar vocabulary

**Materials:** *Essential:* none

### Procedure

1. Write a sequence of familiar words on the board following a 1,2,1,2, pattern, e.g. boots, shoes, boots, shoes, boots, \_\_\_, \_\_\_.
2. Read the sequence rhythmically. Encourage the children to join in and supply the last two missing words.
3. Repeat the procedure with other word sequences from the same lexical set, e.g. hat, T-shirt, coat, hat, T-shirt, \_\_\_, \_\_\_ (following a 1,2,3,1,2,3, pattern ) or trousers, jumper, jumper, trousers, jumper, \_\_\_, \_\_\_ (following a 1,2,2,1,2,2, pattern ) or shirt, shirt, socks, shirt, shirt, \_\_\_, \_\_\_ (following a 1,1, 2,1,1,2, pattern ).
4. Ask the children to copy and complete the word sequences in their books.
5. Check the answers by asking the children to read the word sequences.
6. Ask them to invent and write the first five words of one or two more sequences using familiar vocabulary from the same lexical set. They can either follow any of the patterns you have introduced or they can create a new pattern.
7. Get them to check the spelling of words before they begin, e.g. by looking in their course book.
8. When they are ready, children exchange their books with a partner and read and complete each other's word sequences.
9. They then return the books to the original owner, who checks that the sequences have been completed correctly.

### **Comments and Suggestions**

- This activity gives children practise in copying and writing familiar words. The logical deductive element involved in working out what comes next in the sequence ensures that they are also cognitively engaged.
- Through reading the word sequences aloud in rhythmic way, children are helped to predict what comes next. The use of rhythm while reading also helps children to memorize the written form of the words.