

Discover the question

Level: A2.1, A2.2, B1.1

Age: 10-12

Organization: whole class

Aims: To guess or deduce a question from given answers.

Language focus: *In the example:* past simple, statements and questions

Alternatives: present simple, statements and questions in any tense

Materials: *Essential:* none

Procedure

1. Ask two children to come and sit at the front of the class with their back to the board and facing the other children.
2. Write a question on the board, e.g. *What did you do last weekend?* Without the two children at the front seeing it.
3. Ask the rest of the class to think about a sentence to say in answer to the question. The children at the front then point to and name several children who tell them their answers, e.g. *I did my homework. / I went to the park. / I watched TV. / I read a comic.*
4. After listening to the answers, the children at the front try to guess the question on the board. Be ready to prompt with a word or two if necessary.
5. Repeat the procedure several times with different children and questions.

Comments and Suggestions

- In this activity children are encouraged to actively listen out for 'grammar' as this is the key to guessing the question correctly.
- The questions you use in the activity can be graded in difficulty to suit the level of the children, e.g. *How do you come to school? What's your favourite food? Where are you going on holiday?*