Teacher notes

Disappearing sentence (1)

Language point
Sentence structure

Aim
To increase awareness of correct sentence structure.

Activity
Students play a game to shorten a sentence, maintaining correct grammar.

Organization
Group work

Preparation
Make enough copies of the activity for the number of students in your class.

What do I do?

1 Write the sentence on the board.

2 Divide students into teams of three or four and hand out the activity.

3 Teams take it in turns to remove words from the sentence according to the rules below, to make a shorter but still grammatically correct sentence.

4 Erase words from the board as teams choose them, making the sentence shorter and shorter. Give one point for each word correctly removed.

5 Continue until the sentence has disappeared, or until it is no longer possible to remove more words. The team with the most points is the winner!

Rules

1 You can remove one, two or three consecutive words
2 The sentence must still be grammatically correct after you have removed the word(s)
3 You can add, remove or change punctuation when you remove words, to maintain a grammatically correct sentence.
Jane went out early and walked sleepily down the street to buy some milk and bread when she saw her old friend driving very fast in a beautiful new red car; she waved quickly just before the car disappeared around the sharp corner.