

Activity Type

Grammar Game:
pelmanism, matching,
forming sentences (pair
work)

Focus

Present continuous
affirmative sentences

Aim

To match picture cards
together and make
sentences in the present
continuous about
what's happening in the
pictures.

Preparation

Make one copy of the
cards for each pair of
students and cut as
indicated.

Level

Elementary (A1-A2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

Here is a fun memory game to help students practice the present continuous tense.

Procedure

Divide the students into pairs and give each pair a set of picture cards.

Tell the students to shuffle the cards and spread them out face down on the desk.

Explain that the students are going to play a pelmanism game where they take it in turns to turn over picture cards and make sentences in the present continuous about what's happening in the pictures.

The aim of the game is to find matching pairs of cards, so the students need to remember the position of the pictures to help them win the game.

The first student turns over a card and makes a sentence about the picture in the present continuous, e.g. 'He's riding a bicycle'.

The student then turns over another card.

If the activity on the second card matches with the first card, the student makes a present continuous sentence about the second picture, e.g. 'She's riding a bicycle'.

The student then keeps the pair of cards and has another turn.

If the cards don't match, the student turns the two cards back over, keeping them in the same place.

The other student then turns over a card and so on.

This continues until all the cards have been matched.

The student with the most cards at the end of the game is the winner.

Afterwards, have the students show you their matching cards and make present continuous sentences to review their answers.

As an extension, have the pairs place all the cards face down and write present continuous sentences about the pictures. The pair who writes the most correct sentences is the winner.

