



Diana Funtana's ESL Grammar Game : Memory

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Introduction

Objective: to practice grammar and vocabulary

Level: Suitable to any level

Duration: approx. 30 minutes, or longer

Materials: matching cards or strips

“Memory” is a well-known game that can be played to practice a variety of grammar points and vocabulary. It's simple, fun, flexible and easy to set up. In this package the game is used to practice:

- the future simple for promises and agreements (intermediate level)
- infinitives of purpose (intermediate level)
- vocabulary: antonyms (beginner level)

Directions and rules

1. Photocopy each sheet onto different coloured paper to avoid getting the sets mixed up. A heavier paper is recommended if you're going to play this game more often. Cut the sheet in half and in strips, keeping the left and right sides together with paper clips. If you want to play the game for a longer period of time, you will need to make at least 3 copies of each set.
2. Put the class into groups of 3 or 4, and lay the cards face down on a desk or table with the left set on one side and the right on the other. Mix them up well so that the two sides do not match.
3. In each group, students roll a die to see who goes first and then proceed in a clockwise manner. The first student turns over a card on the left, reads it out loud, and does the same with the right. If the students don't read out the card, the game becomes a race to finish and in the process they learn nothing. If the two cards match, the student wins a point. If they don't match, the student turns them face down again, and the next student takes a turn.
4. There are two ways to proceed. Students can have only one turn at a time (my preference for the sake of fairness), or they can keep going until they make a mistake.
5. The game ends when all the cards have been turned up and correctly matched. When one group finishes, they should review the grammar point

by reading out the matching sets. If there's more time, give the group a new set of cards.

Other suggested grammar points:

- ◆ irregular past and past participles
- ◆ vocabulary: words and definitions
- ◆ vocabulary: words and synonyms
- ◆ vocabulary: logical pairs (salt / pepper, day / night, love / marriage)

I want to lose weight.

I'll go jogging with you.

I love you.

I'll marry you.

I've got a headache.

I'll get you an aspirin.

My hair's too long.

I'll cut it for you.

I'm out of money.

I'll lend you \$20.00.

Someone stole my cell phone!

I'll call the police.

I'm thirsty.

I'll get you some water.

I've got a secret.

I won't tell anyone.

The train leaves at 7:00.

I won't be late.

That jacket is very expensive.

I won't buy it.

I'm hungry.

I'll make us a pizza.

I'm very busy right now.

I'll call back later.

I've lost my keys.

I'll help you look.

It's my birthday.

I'll buy you a present.

I want to watch the news.

I'll turn on the television.

It's hot in here.

I'll open a window.

It's raining.

I'll lend you my umbrella.

I can't understand you.

I'll repeat that.

I'm moving far away.

I'll miss you.

It's cold in here.

I'll turn up the heat.

I have a bad headache.

I'll get you an aspirin.

My glass is empty.

I'll bring you a drink.

Let's go to a movie.

I'll pick you up at 8:00.

Your appointment is at 3:00.

I won't forget.

This is our only key.

I won't lose it.

Tell Janet to call me.

I'll give her your message.

I can't carry this suitcase.

I'll help you.

The music is too loud.

I'll turn it down.

I'm having a party tonight.

I'll be there.

I'd like to speak to Anne Klein.

I'll ring her room.

I went to the store

to buy some coffee.

I used my computer

to send an e-mail.

I turned on the tv

to watch the news.

I bought a new dress/suit

to wear to a party.

We went to the bar

to drink Margaritas.

I'm going to the park

to walk my dog.

I've been to Future Shop

to buy a flat screen t.v.

I have an appointment

to see my dentist.

We're having a party

to celebrate New Year's.

I called a taxi

to take me to the airport.

I've been to London

to visit the Queen.

I'm taking an evening class

to learn Spanish.

I'm learning English

to get a good job.

We're staying up late

to watch a horror movie.

I've been to the kitchen

to make a cup of tea.

Push the green button

to start the machine.

You need a ticket

to ride the bus.

I'm going on a diet

to lose weight.

You need a passport

to travel to America.

We went on a trip

to see Niagara Falls.

COLD

HOT

BIG

SMALL

SHORT

TALL

SWEET

SOUR

DARK

LIGHT

OLD

YOUNG

EASY

DIFFICULT

GOOD

BAD

SOFT

HARD

FAST

SLOW

IN

OUT

UP

DOWN

TO

FROM

AFTER

BEFORE

HERE

THERE

BEHIND

IN FRONT OF

OVER

UNDER

INTO

OUT OF

FOR

AGAINST

TOWARD

AWAY

REMEMBER

FORGET

WALK

RUN

SIT

STAND

LAUGH

CRY

FIND

LOSE

OPEN

CLOSE

GIVE

TAKE

ASK

ANSWER

SLEEP

WAKE

START

STOP