

This warmer gives students practice in talking about sports, vegetables and using superlative adjectives.

Level:

Intermediate and above

Language Aims:

To brainstorm vocabulary for a particular topic. To practice discussing the pros and cons of two different things.

Preparation

None

Procedure:

1. Ask students to work in small groups. Tell them you will say a topic and a letter of the alphabet and they need to write down as many examples of that topic as they can on a piece of paper that begin with that letter.

2. Say the word, "**Sport**" and the letter "**S**". Students write down as many kinds of sports as they can think of that begin with the letter 'S' e.g. *skiing, skating, scuba diving, showjumping, soccer*. Give students about a minute to do this.

3. Ask students a question which requires them to compare the merits of the different things on their list, e.g. "*What sport on your list is the most exciting?*" Students need to work together to make a list of their sports

ranking from the most exciting to the least exciting. This can either be done as a speed activity with students trying to finish before other groups, or more enjoyably, as a discussion activity with all students having to agree on where a sport goes in the list. This means they will have to discuss the merits of different sports.



4. Ask students to tell the class their 'most exciting' and 'least exciting' sports and give a reason for their choices.

5. Repeat the activity if you wish with a different topic and different letter of the alphabet e.g. '**Fruit and Vegetables**' and the letter '**C**'. (Answers could include *cherry, cabbage, cucumber, carrot, capsicum, celery*.) You could then ask the question "Which is the most useful fruit or vegetable to keep in your refrigerator?"..



Variation: Simply ask students to brainstorm as many examples of a topic without restricting them to those that begin with a certain letter of the alphabet.