

Spinners

Level: GESE Grade 5 (CEFR B1)

Time: 45 minutes

Aims

- ▶ To practise question formation (at CEFR B1)
- ▶ To practise role playing question and answer interaction
- ▶ To develop communication skills
- ▶ To prepare candidates for the GESE Grade 5 exam

Resources:

- ▶ Plain paper (A3 or A4) and pens

Procedure

Making spinner handouts question stems

1. Students work in groups of 3. On a piece of A3 paper students write the language functions and grammar of GESE Grade 5 on a mind map. These can be taken from the syllabus or read to the class as a dictation.
2. Give groups 5 minutes to brainstorm possible question stems (The start of general questions) for each language function and grammar (eg present perfect = Have you ever...?)
3. Groups swap posters and check the question suggestions and try to add some more. There is an example of a completed poster for GESE Grade 5 overleaf.

Spinners activity

4. Groups swap the posters again. Give each group a topic that they can talk about at B1 (Or use the GESE conversation areas: GESE Grade 5= Festivals, Means of transport, Special occasions, Entertainment, Music, recent personal experiences).
5. One member of the group puts a pen on the centre of the poster and spins it. When the pen stops spinning it will point at a question stem, the student uses the question stem to ask a question about the conversation topic. For example, if the topic is 'Special Occasions' and the pen is pointing to the questions stem '*Do you think you will...?*' the student could ask: '*Do you think you will have a party for your next birthday?*' The other two students in the group answer the question.
6. Students take it in turns to spin the pen and ask questions related to the topic area. After five minutes change the topic area to another topic area.

Reverse questioning

Using the posters students generate the answer to a question and the other two members of the group have to guess the question that would lead to that answer. For example, a student might say '*I think I'll study medicine*' and the group guesses 'What do you think you'll study at university?' There will probably be several possibilities.

Additional activities:

- ▶ Use the same Spinner Handouts to create questions to ask a student about their topic presentation (this could be any subject and also done in groups)
- ▶ Spinners Handouts can be created at all levels (A2, B2 or C1)
- ▶ Use the Spinners Handouts to create a whole conversation and pairs write the script of the discourse, recording their answers

Example Spinners poster

