



UNEX Understanding What We Read



Title: The magazine quiz

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Title: The magazine quiz

Keywords: #scanning # matching # skimming

Duration: *The activity is suitable for a single lesson about 40 min*

Description:

This activity will provide new ideas which can be used by the teacher in class. Using authentic materials in the classroom has always been a good idea, because this makes learning more “real life” orientated.

Before the lesson the teacher needs to collect a variety of magazines and some leaflets. The magazines need to include at least some articles that are of appropriate length and complexity. The leaflets should contain more information in them- those about sightseeing places, museums or other tourist attractions can be a good choice.

Objectives:

- 1. to develop students' comprehension skills while reading authentic materials*
- 2. to develop students' fluency;*
- 3. to develop students' abilities to read for general and detailed information;*
- 4. to develop students' abilities to work in a team, together with other students.*

Activities and stages

- 1. Warm-up - The teacher provokes a discussion in the class about the reading habits of the students. He asks the students some questions about what they read, how often, if they read magazines or newspapers;*
- 2. The teacher divides the class into pairs or groups of three;*
- 3. Each pair quickly find an article, or the given leaflet, and write three or four comprehension questions about it. On a separate note they should write the answers;*
- 4. After an appropriate length of time, students swap their magazines or leaflets, together with the questions with the pair to the right;*
- 5. Each pair now has to quickly go through the magazine or the leaflets to find the article and then read it to find the answers to the questions. The students should write the answers and pass them back to the original pair for checking;*
- 6. Repeat stages 4 and 5 above, with learners swapping with the pair to the left.*

Tips for trainers

What the teacher needs to bear in mind is that the choice of an appropriate text is very important in building up students' reading competence. A text which is too difficult, where every other word has to be explained, or which uses extremely complex grammatical constructions, or which is about something of small interest to the students, is only likely to produce frustration. It's also very important to choose a story which is not familiar to most of the students, because if they know it the whole idea of the detail reading will be corrupted.

The magazines or the leaflets should be on familiar topics.

It can be helpful to remind learners of the types of question they could write.

The teacher should support the students while they work in groups.

Resources

- *Magazines;*
- *Leaflets;*
- *newspapers*

Evaluation/Feedback

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| 1. <i>Did you find the activity interesting?</i> | Yes | No |
| 2. <i>Was it difficult to understand the text?</i> | Yes | No |
| 3. <i>Did you find it difficult to write the questions?</i> | Yes | No |