Activity Type

Vocabulary Game: guessing (group work)

Focus

Superlatives

Aim

To review and practice superlative adjectives.

Preparation

Make one copy of the cards and cut as indicated.

Level

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time

40 minutes

Introduction

This superlative adjectives game is based on the TV show 'Family Fortunes'. The aim of the game is to guess the top five answers in a superlative category.

Procedure

Divide the class into two teams.

Have one student from each team come to the front of the class.

Pick a card at random and read out the heading as a question, e.g. 'What are the most visited countries in the world?'

The first student to raise their hand gives their answer.

If the student's answer is the number one answer on the card (i.e., France), their team can choose to play or pass, depending on the difficulty of the category. If not, the other student gives their answer.

The student with the highest ranking answer wins the choice for their team to play or pass.

Students in the playing team then take turns guessing the other top five answers on the card.

The playing team gets three lifelines per round. This means if a student in the team gives an answer that is not in the top five, the team loses one lifeline.

If the team guesses all the answers, they score ten points.

If the team gives three answers that are not in the top five, play passes to the other team.

The other team then has one chance to name one of the other top five answers. If they manage to do this, they score ten points.

Two new students then come to the front of the class for the next round, and so on.

The game continues until all the cards have been used.

The team with the most points at the end of the game wins.

Afterwards, write up the headings from the cards on the board.

Finally, in pairs, students try to remember what the number one answer for each card was by writing a superlative sentence for each heading, e.g. 'France is the most visited country in the world.' Afterwards, review the sentences and correct answers with the class.

the most visited countries

1. France
2. United States
3. China
4. Spain
5. Italy

the most difficult languages

1. Chinese
2. Arabic
3. Korean
4. Hungarian
5. Japanese

the most well paid jobs

1. doctor
2. lawyer
3. engineer
4. pilot
5. teacher

the most spoken languages

1. English
2. Chinese
3. Hindi
4. Spanish
5. French

the biggest cities

1. Tokyo
2. Jakarta
3. Delhi
4. Manila
5. Seoul

the most watched sports

1. football
2. cricket
3. hockey
4. tennis
5. volleyball

the richest cities

1. Zurich
2. New York
3. Singapore
4. San Francisco
5. Dubai

the most grown fruits

1. bananas
2. apples
3. oranges
4. strawberries
5. lemons

the largest countries

1. Russia
2. Canada
3. United States
4. China
5. Brazil

the most popular pets

1. dogs
2. cats
3. fish
4. birds
5. rabbits

the best day of the week

1. Friday
2. Saturday
3. Sunday
4. Thursday
5. Wednesday

the longest rivers

1. Nile River
2. Amazon River
3. Yangtze River
4. Mississippi River
5. Yenisei River

the highest mountains

1. Everest
2. K2
3. Kangchenjunga
4. Lhotse
5. Makalu

the most popular ice cream flavours

1. vanilla
2. chocolate
3. strawberry
4. chocolate chip
5. cookies & cream

the most successful football teams

1. Real Madrid
2. AC Milan
3. Liverpool
4. Bayern Munich
5. Barcelona

the most eaten foods

1. rice
2. eggs
3. chicken
4. pasta
5. bread

the most popular holiday destinations

1. London
2. Istanbul
3. Marrakech
4. Paris
5. Siam Reap

the best things about school

1. friends
2. field trips
3. lunchtime
4. favourite subjects
5. the teachers

the healthiest exercises

1. swimming
2. cycling
3. jogging
4. walking
5. weight training

the most famous scientists

1. Albert Einstein
2. Marie Curie
3. Isaac Newton
4. Charles Darwin
5. Galileo