



Activities to Enhance Listening Skills

Here are some activities for small and large groups to practice active listening skills.

1. What's your passion?

- Pair up the students
- Have each student spend 3 minutes discussing a hobby or passion. The other student should be listening and might want to take notes
- After 3 minutes, have the students switch partners and repeat the activity
- Each student will then share with the class the information they obtained from the interview

2. What's my job?

- Pair up the students
- Give one student a job title with a job description
- The student with the job title and job description will start the conversation by providing a clue about the job, for example, "I sit at a desk most of the day."
- The second student will then ask a related question. "Do you have a computer at your desk?"
- This back and forth exchange will continue until the job is guessed

3. Change the news

- Divide the class into two groups and tell the students that you will be reading a news article out loud to them.
- Read the article exactly as it is written
- Tell the students that you will be rereading the article, but will be changing some of the information
- Tell the students to raise their hands when they hear something that differs from the first reading
- The team that identifies the most changes wins

4. Continue the story

- Run the activity as a whole group
- The first person will start a story with one sentence
- The next person must add a sentence, but it must start with the last word
- The process continues until each student has a turn

Example:

Student 1: "A long time ago we didn't have cars."

Student 2: "Cars were needed for transportation to and from towns."

Student 3: "Towns were far apart from each other."

Modification:

If you have a large group, you can modify the activity by having each person add one word, instead of a whole sentence.