

ACTIVITY

Pairwork: speaking, writing

AIM

To find similarities between two different pictures by asking and answering questions. To write brief descriptions of the pictures.

GRAMMAR AND FUNCTIONS

Describing a room or house

There is/are

Is there...? Are there...? It's got...

Expressions of quantity

VOCABULARY

Houses, rooms and furniture

PREPARATION

Make one copy of the worksheet for each pair of students in the class and cut the pictures out as indicated.

TIME

30 minutes

PROCEDURE

- 1 Ask the students to work in pairs, Student A and Student B. They should sit facing one another.
- 2 Give a copy of picture 1A to each Student A and a copy of picture 1B to each Student B. Tell the students not to show their own picture to their partner.
- 3 Tell the students that their partner's picture is similar but not identical to their own picture.
- 4 Explain that they are going to try to find similarities in their pictures by describing them, not showing them to one another.
- 5 Elicit the language they will need to ask and answer questions about the pictures by inviting the students to ask you about a room in your home.
For example:
Kitchen: *Has it got a window? Is there a table?*
- 6 Give the students a three-minute time limit to find as many similarities in their pictures as possible. They should keep a record of the number of similarities they find, but they do not have to remember details at this point.
- 7 After three minutes, stop the activity and find out which pair of students found the most similarities.
- 8 The students can now look at their partner's picture.

FOLLOW-UP

- 1 Ask the students to stay in their pairs and choose the picture they like best.
- 2 Tell the students to look at their picture for one minute and then put it back.
- 3 They now have five minutes to write down as many details as they can remember about their picture. Encourage them to use the target language.
- 4 After five minutes, ask the pairs of students to give their picture and their sentences to another pair to check.
- 5 Repeat the activity, either now or later, using pairs of pictures 2 and 3.

OPTION

You can use these pictures later in the course for discussion about the type of person who might live in the different rooms/houses. (See Lesson 17 on describing people.)