

Activity Type

Grammar and Speaking
Activity: asking questions from prompts, freer practice (pair work)

Focus

Past simple yes/no questions and short answers

Did you...?

Yes, I did. / No, I didn't.

Past simple *Wh* follow-up questions

Aim

To ask past simple yes/no questions in order to find out why a partner wrote certain answers.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Level

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this past simple yes/no questions activity, students ask *Did you...?* questions to a partner in order to find out why they wrote certain answers

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the worksheet.

First, students write short answers for the items on their worksheet in a random order in the speech bubbles.

Students should write single words, names or short phrases, not complete sentences.

Next, divide the students into pairs.

Tell the students to swap worksheets with their partner.

Students take it in turns to ask past simple yes/no questions with *Did you...?* to find out why their partner has written the words in the speech bubbles.

For example, if a student sees the word 'laptop' written in one of the bubbles, the student might ask 'Did you buy a laptop last month?' 'Did you give someone a laptop as a present last year?' Etc.

When their partner replies 'Yes, I did', the student puts a tick next to the bubble.

The student then asks past simple *Wh* follow-up questions to find out more information and generate discussion.

At the end of the activity, students report back to the class on the most interesting things they found out about their partner.

Note: This resource can be edited using a PDF editor.

Write short answers for the items below in the speech bubbles. Write your answers in a random order.

- something you bought last month
- the town or city you lived in ten years ago
- a place you went on holiday when you were a child
- a place in your country you went to last year
- someone you were friends with in primary school
- a present you gave to someone last year
- something you did last month that you enjoyed
- someone you talked to on the phone last week
- something you liked doing when you were a child
- someone you went on holiday with last year

