

Activity Ideas: Listening for Specifics

LISTENING FOR SPECIFICS

Listening for Specifics has students focus on the details. This activity allows students to listen for key information, which can then be used for comprehension. The opportunity to listen, discuss, and listen again builds confidence, as well as focuses on what key information demands the attention of the students.

Step One: The teacher explains the purpose of the activity: to listen for specific details. A list of comprehension questions (either true/false or open-ended) for the article, monologue, or dialogue are dictated aloud. If time is short, the questions may be written on the board or distributed as a printable.

Step Two: If the teacher dictated the questions, then students get into pairs and compare and correct the comprehension questions. This ensures that everyone will focus on the same points in subsequent steps.

Step Three: Optional. In the same pairs, students imagine possible answers to the questions. Although they haven't heard or read the article yet, this step helps focus listening.

Step Four: The teacher now reads the article aloud. Students shouldn't take notes, but instead remember the information that directly answers the questions.

Step Five: In pairs once more, everyone answers the questions. Any differences are discussed in an attempt to come to the same answer.

Step Six: The teacher reads the article once more to confirm the answers discussed in Step Five. In addition, students listen for information around the sentences. This provides a more detailed picture of the piece.

Step Seven: Students regroup and correct any information previously discussed. They also add to the information.

Step Eight: The teacher distributes the article. Students read through the piece, then answer or correct any remaining comprehension questions.



If you liked this idea and want others, then take a look at my ebook, [Better Language Teaching](#). There are **100 activities** with more than **75 variations** for flexible, fun learning.

Have great classes!

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