1 Minute speaking activity

Introduction

This activity uses https://wheelofnames.com/ to add a game show type element to a common classroom speaking activity.

In the activity, students have to speak for one minute about a random topic, which is chosen by spinning the wheel. Students who can speak for one minute about the topic win a point for their team.

With lower levels, you can reduce the time they need to speak to 30 seconds or less.

Tech tip

Wheel of Names is a digital spinning wheel that you can use for a range of games and activities. You can edit the spinning wheel and add your own content. The wheel automatically removes items once they have been selected. You can also upload images to the wheel. If you want to save your games, you’ll need to create a free account. Students don’t need to register.

Webinar reference: 31:10 - 36:06

Level: Secondary B1 +

Time: 20 + minutes

Aim: To develop students’ abilities to speak fluently about topics they are interested in.
**Preparation:**

- Select 8 - 10 topics that you think your students will be interested in.
- Go to: [https://wheelofnames.com/](https://wheelofnames.com/)
- Replace the existing topics with your new topics.
- Click on the ‘Share’ icon and follow the instructions to get a link to your game.

**Procedure:**

- Put your students into teams.
- Show them the wheel with the topics in.
- Click on the wheel and spin it.
- Once it stops on a topic, ask your students to work in their groups to share all the things they could say about the topic in one minute.
- Give them time to prepare and then select a group and get them to choose a volunteer from their group to talk about the topic.
- While the volunteer talks, they must not repeat themselves or pause for too long, if they do the other teams get a point.
- The other students should listen and check to make sure they don’t repeat any information.
- When they have finished, click on the topic to remove it and then click the spinner again and repeat the process with a new student from a different group.

**Variation:**

- Once students understand the game, you can give them a link to the spinner, and they can play together in pairs or small groups while you monitor and make notes of any language errors or problems they need help with.
Additional resources:

**Wheel of Names tutorial | 10 Easy ESL games & activities**

- In this Wheel of Names tutorial, Charlie explains how to use wheel of names in 10 different activities designed for the ESL and EFL classroom. He also shares Wheel of Names wheels that you can use in your own classroom.

  [https://youtu.be/WQvizWWRvCo](https://youtu.be/WQvizWWRvCo)

**Fluency activities for higher levels**

- These activities from Clare Lavery provide opportunities for learners to speak at length on various lighter topics.

  [https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/fluency-activities-higher-levels](https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/fluency-activities-higher-levels)

**Fluency activities for lower levels**

- Developing spoken fluency with learners at low levels can be very challenging, but here are some tips and activities from Clare Lavery which may help.

  [https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/fluency-activities-lower-levels](https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/fluency-activities-lower-levels)

**Teaching pathways: How to teach speaking**

- Our online training course 'Teaching pathways - How to teach speaking' helps you learn how to design speaking tasks and improve the speaking skills of your students.

  [https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/teaching-pathways-how-teach-speaking](https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/teaching-pathways-how-teach-speaking)