Game 6: Part of Speech

In Part of Speech, players follow the general rules for Sentence Race. However, the teacher gives the players a specific pattern to use, and their sentences must follow this pattern. This activity is great for lower proficiency level students, as it provides scaffolding to help students generate a correct sentence. Groups should be given quite a few Word Bricks to ensure that they have examples of each type of word required by the pattern. Alternatively, teachers can make sure each group receives appropriate Word Bricks.

Instructions

1. Have students (the players) sit in groups of 3–5, and ask each of the groups to choose a name for their team.

2. Make a column for each team on the board and write the teams’ names at the top. Tell players that they will receive points for each Word Brick that they use in a complete sentence. Their points will be recorded on the board.

3. Give each team a handful of Word Bricks. It is not necessary that teams receive exactly the same number or any particular combination of Word Bricks, but make sure that each team has at least one “Wild Card” and at least one -s brick.

4. Tell players the pattern that you would like them to follow. For example, one pattern could be:

   article — noun — verb — plural noun

   Instruct students to use their Word Bricks to make sentences that fit the given pattern. Remind students that they will likely need their -s brick.

5. Follow steps 4–8 for Sentence Race (page 95), but encourage wild and silly sentences. Teams can build odd but grammatical sentences, such as “The cat eats fish.” and “The men love trees.”