

Past Storytelling

Introduction: This is a creative past tense activity that challenges the creative free speaking abilities of the student. It can be taught in many ways and following are two examples:

Put students into groups of 3 or 4, or pairs if you really want to push them. Higher levels can work in pairs whereas groups give lower level students a feeling of security. One student will begin the story with one of the supplied introductory phrases. The other students must create the second sentence, the third student creates the third sentence and it goes around the circle.

Remember that the story is about the first student so all following sentences follow this plot line. When the story hits a dead end (gets boring), the next student can create a new story and so on. The teacher can monitor and interject a few lines to slower groups if necessary.

In this method, the students are put into groups or pairs and

The first student creates the whole story with a 30-45 second time limit. The other students then ask at least 2 or 3 simple past tense and past continuous WH and Yes/No questions to the storyteller and other members in the group. After the Q/A session, the second student creates a new story.

Past StoryTelling

One day I woke up late for school/work....

One day I forgot to do my English homework...

One day I took a walk at Boulevard Lake...

One day I took a very difficult English test...

One day I saw the Mayor of Thunder Bay walking down the street...

One day I met the most beautiful/handsome man/woman...

One day I fought with my best friend over....

One day I saw my English teacher with a beautiful/handsome woman/man...

One day I saw a building on fire and a woman was...

One day I went to a party and drank a lot of wine and then...

One day I went to the Casino and I...

One day I went to a dance club with my friends and I...

One day I ate too much and I...

One day I flew to Australia and I...

One day I saw Jacky Chan and he...

One day I bought a beautiful new...