בס"ד

**Listening Activities**

Listening is a skill that many teachers overlook when teaching students. It is as important as speaking; communication goes two ways – there is both a speaker and a listener. It should be explicitly taught and developed. The following activities require very little preparation or extra material, and students find them helpful and interesting.

### [A Picture Dictation](http://tefldust.blogspot.com/2014/11/a-picture-dictation.html)

Three variations:  **1)** The teacher dictates a picture to all students and they draw what is being said.  
  
**2)** Students take turns dictating the same picture to one student drawing at the board (a hands-up scenario).  
  
**3)** Students dictate pictures to each other in pairs.

# Go Fishing!

This is a very easy activity to prepare and to do.  However, it is very efficient to evaluate students' listening skills and to get some creativity in the listening area in your class.

1.  Choose a song with vocabulary that suits your class or that you have used.  Ex.  past verbs, past participles, animals, places, etc.

2.  Cut little pieces of paper with a word for every sentence in the song. You will end up with many pieces of paper.

3.  Place the pieces of paper in front of the students.  Make pairs or groups of three or four.

4.  Explain the activity.

5.  Play the song and let the students GO FISHING!  Each time a student hears a word, he should "fish" it from the table and write a number (in order). This prevents them from randomly picking up words. The student who has the most pieces of paper wins.

Follow up:

If you want to evaluate comprehension, ask a few questions about the song.

Variation:

Create a story with all the words and read it to the class.  Play the same way.

Listen and Correct

A) Read and react - The teacher reads out a prepared script. The students react by knocking or coughing when they hear a mistake. The teacher can ask for immediate corrections, or wait until the end.

B) Note the differences - Each student has a handout which is slightly different. One is correct, the other incorrect. The student with the incorrect version reads out their script. As they read the passage, the other student must stop and say – “No, no, no, that's wrong! It should say \_\_\_\_\_\_\_." Correct together as a class.

The 5 W's

Play a short audio story or news report. Ask the students afterwards to note the 5Ws (Who / What / Where / When / Why ). Let them be the reporter!

Prediction

Find a good story. Students listen to the story and when the teacher pauses it, they guess – “What will happen next?” This really keeps them listening and engaged in the learning!

Cloze / Language Gap

The students have a text with some words missing. They listen (repeat as often as necessary) and then check their answers when the audio is played again. Can be used with songs.

Finish It

The teacher tells the students a story. The students must listen to the story carefully and either A) answer a question at the end or B) finish the story.

Works well with jokes / funny stories / riddles.