

Happy Family Tenses

How to play:

Write the sentences below on small cards.

Shuffle the cards and deal them equally between players.

One student starts by asking another student for a certain sentence.

"Do you have the present tense for run? Tom runs."

If the person addressed has got the sentence they must give to the student who asked for it. The first student may then ask another question until they fail to get what she / he wanted.

In this case the person who was addressed may ask the next question.

Whoever gets the 3 different tenses of a particular sentence, can put these strips down as one point.

The winner is the person who wins most points.

The game forces the students to think about the structure of sentences in different tenses.

Begin the game with just simple tenses and sentences.

When students are confident, change to longer sentences and continuous tenses.

Five "families" of sentences are enough to create a good game.

The game can be played by individuals, pairs or teams.

Tom runs. Tom ran. Tom will run.

I swim in the pool. I swam in the pool.

I will swim in the pool.

He drives a red car. He drove a red car.

He will drive a red car.

The cow moos loudly. The cow mooed loudly.

The cow will moo loudly.

The cat laps milk from a saucer.

The cat lapped milk from a saucer.

The cat will lap milk from a saucer.

Continuous Tenses You now need to get 6 members for each family.

Tom is running. Tom was running.

Tom will be running.

I am swimming in the pool.

I was swimming in the pool.

I will be swimming in the pool.

He is driving a red car.

He will be driving a red car.

He was driving a red car.

The cow is mooing loudly.

The cow was mooing loudly.

The cow will be mooing loudly.

The cat is lapping milk from a saucer.

The cat will be lapping milk from a saucer.

The cat was lapping milk from the saucer.