

| Title                       | Clock speed dating: a starter activity to activate student learning and group work. |
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| Language(s)<br>& CEFR Level | Pre-A1/ A1/A1-A2/A2/A2-B1/B1/C1-C2  |
| Skill Area                  | Reception (Listening) /Spoken Production / Spoken Interaction                       |

This icebreaker/starter is an It is an interesting way of getting students using dialogue from the start of the lesson in an independent way as well as to find out how much they know about a topic that has taught or a topic that is yet to be taught. It works exactly like speed dating. The optimum number of participants is 12 but depends on the group you can modify this method. So, if you have smaller group, you can ask students to divide their clocks into 6, 8 or 10 parts. If you have a large class, you can ask students to double up i.e. a pair for each hour of the clock or have two different clocks running in the room.

#### **Instructions:**

# Activity Description

- Everyone has has their own mini whiteboard and is required to draw a regular analogue clockface on it with 12/10/6 hours (depending on the number of participants)
- The teacher asks students to find "a date" (essentially a partner that they can talk with for every hour on the clock). So, John might ask Anna to meet at 4pm, both book that time for each other and write it on their clock. This stage is fantastic for practising numbers and times; however, you could prepare this part before the lesson. Students need to organize time by cooperation and creativity. That's why mini whiteboards are such useful!
- After everyone has written the "date" down, the teacher can give students a specific
  task to like ask about family members, pretend you're in a post office and ask for a
  stamp, etc.. The teacher reads out the time and the students go to the person next to
  that hour.

I found the clock speed dating is a very useful tool to ensure that **everyone** has a partner for discussion and people have a chance to talk to each other

#### **Estimated Time**

30 mins

## Resources required

MINI WHITEBOARDS

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### Resource

**Success Criteria** 

- Students will organize their time by cooperation
- Students will talk to each. Each person must be involved.