

## Teacher Trumps

Lesson plan by Jim Davies

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<b>Function:</b>	Boasting
<b>Grammar point:</b>	Comparisons / Superlatives
<b>Level:</b>	Pre-intermediate
<b>Time:</b>	20+ minutes
<b>Equipment:</b>	Teacher Trump cards
<b>Number of players:</b>	2-4

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Explain that each card is a teacher profile about staff from a rival Language School to your own. Unlike your school, all these teachers are unpleasant characters and often boast to each other in their teacher's room.

Deal out all the cards, an equal number of cards to each player. The players can look at their cards. The first player nominates a category on one of their cards (e.g. popularity) and places a card of their choice on the table with an appropriately boastful statement such as "I am much more popular than you!". The player to the left must then look for a card in their hand that has a higher popularity rating than the one on the table. If they can't match or beat the challenger's rating then they must hand any card to the challenger with an appropriate response like "Yes, you are the most popular." The first player then takes both cards and puts them out of play in their own winning cards pile. In the case of a draw, player one must withdraw their card. The object of the game is to gain the largest stack of cards. It is now player two's nomination and the game continues until someone has no cards left to play.

This game makes tediously dull comparison work a lot more fun. You might want to focus on intonation to make the boasting aspect more realistic. To extend the game you can spread the cards out and get the students to rank the teachers in term of ugliness, or hair length etc. For fluency you can get the players to speculate as to why one teacher is less popular than another. "He has the worst breath and gives the most homework!" would really crown this fun lesson.