PARALANGUAGE

Type of activity: group discussion, mingling
Function: paralanguage
Level: elementary
Language needed: describing situations
Approximate time: 20 minutes
Materials: worksheets, situation cards

Procedure

1. Look at the example on the board. (What would you say if you hit your finger with a hammer?—Ouch!) Then let students work in groups to see if they can figure out the sounds from the spelling.

2. Practice the pronunciation together. Then students continue in their groups and talk about when each sound might be used. Go over the answers together and talk about the body language that might be used with each sound.

3. Students should then talk in their groups about paralanguage in their own languages.

4. Then give each student a situation card. The students stand up and hold their situation cards facing away from their bodies. Students should mingle and read each other’s situation cards. Upon reading another situation card, they should use the paralanguage appropriate for the situation. They must continue until they have seen each situation card.