A winter wonderland



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A winter wonderland

Activity

Information gap

Aim

To complete a text about the Harbin ice lantern festival by asking a partner questions.

Interaction

Pairs

Language focus

Present perfect continuous with for and since; question formation

Skills focus

Speaking

Preparation

Photocopy one worksheet for each pair of students and cut it in half.

Time

20 minutes

Procedure

- 1 Google search 'Harbin Ice Festival' and show the pictures to the students. Tell them to discuss in pairs what they would like to know about the festival. Do some open class feedback and put some of their questions on the board.
- **2** Explain that students A and B will have the same piece of writing about the festival but that they have different pieces of information missing. Tell them that A has the information B is missing and vice versa.
- **3** Write on the board *Harbin* is the capital of _____ province and elicit the question *Which province* is *Harbin the capital of?* Write it on the board.
- 4 Divide the students into two groups, A and B. Give the students in group A the A card and the students in group B the B card. Tell them to work with another person in their group.
- **5** Tell the students that before they can find out their missing information they must write all five of their questions. Monitor to offer help and to check the correct formation of questions.
- **6** When the students have written their questions, tell them to find a new partner from the other group so that A and B students are working together. Explain that they now have to ask and answer the questions and write the answers to their questions in the appropriate gaps. Monitor to correct any mistakes.
- **7** When the students have finished asking and answering questions, ask them to compare their pieces of writing to make sure they are the same.
- **8** Ask the students to turn over their papers and see how many of the questions on the board from Step 1 they can answer.

