

## GAMES teaching notes – by Lindsay Clandfield

Level: Intermediate

Aim: Students read about two famous American board games and learn the vocabulary of games. They have an opportunity to practice the vocabulary they have learnt in a writing activity or by actually playing a game.

### Warmer

If you have access to pictures of the two board games Scrabble and Monopoly, put them on a large piece of card and show them to the class. What do the students know about these two games? Brainstorm a list of things on the board. Tell them that today they are going to find out some things about these two games and learn how to play a game in English.

### Stage one

What do these games have in common? Ask students to predict the answers before they read.

Answers

1 T    2 F    3 F    4 T    5 T    6 T    7 T    8 T

After the reading students check their answers. A = Scrabble B= Monopoly

### Stage two

Tell students to do this activity in pairs.

Answers:

*Scrabble is played with letters. The objective is to make words on the board. Different letters are worth different points.*

*In Scrabble each player has seven letters per turn.*

*If you can't make a word with your letters, you miss a turn in Scrabble.*

*Monopoly is played with toy money, which you use to buy property on the board.*

*In Monopoly, players roll a dice and move around the board.*

*In Monopoly, you can build houses and hotels on the squares which you have bought.*

### Stage three

In this activity, students learn some vocabulary to play a game with. First get them to reorder the phrases. Elicit the meaning of the terms. Use examples, gestures or translation for those that the students don't know.

Answers:

*Roll the dice / It's your turn / Pick up a card / Miss a turn / Go again / Whoever rolls highest goes first / Which is your counter? / No cheating!*

### Stage four

Identify that game! Students should work in pairs or small groups for this activity. They must write a series of rules, using the vocabulary they have learnt, to a game they know well. Specify that they mustn't write what the game is. At the end, you can post the "mystery games" on the board for people to try and identify.

### Play a game

Obviously, the best follow up to this vocabulary lesson would be to actually play Monopoly or Scrabble. Ask other teachers or students if they bring in the games (preferably English versions!). Up to eight people can play at each game. Get them to go through the rules again, but they must play entirely in English, again using the expressions they have learnt. Circulate and monitor. At the end, you could conduct a correction slot on their use of English while playing a game!