



Ten Minute Warmer (10): One Minute Writing

Lesson Topic: Learner's choice of topic

Level: A1 to B1+

Time: 10-20 minutes (can be extended)

Activity: Noticing differences between Present Perfect/ Past Simple

Materials: None

Language: Present Perfect/ Past Simple



Introduction

This exercise aims to do three things:

- Break the ice
- Get learners talking about a specific topic
- Introduce Present Perfect/ Past Simple and show how they are different (encourage *noticing*)

Procedure

1) Ask learners to think for a moment of one thing that happened to them in the last few days, last week, or last month. It must be something *real*.

Tell learners you want them to write for one minute about this thing.

*If your learners really have no ideas then model an example from your own life but BEWARE - they might just 'copy' your model.

2) Tell them that they only have 1 minute to write – so they have to write very quickly!

3) Say 'GO!' and after a minute, stop them writing.

4) Say 'Ask the person next to you about *their* writing'. They can do this in pairs or groups. Monitor and notice the language they use.

5) Point out examples of good use and errors. Then write on WB these questions:

What did you write?
What have you written?

Go over pronunciation features i.e. connection of 'what' and 'did', weak form of 'you'.

6) Teach them the difference between the two questions! (Hint: *in the mind of the speaker past simple is finished, present perfect is still relevant or unfinished - especially if you add 'so far' to the question*)

Images

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