

## Questions only!

**Level:** GESE Grade 7-12 (CEFR B2-C2)

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Exam task focus:**

- ▶ To develop questioning skills
- ▶ To interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity

**Materials needed:**

- ▶ Buzzer
- ▶ Timer
- ▶ Scenario Cards

## Description of the activity

1. Watch a short video from the 'Questions Only' improvisation game, available at the following link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tkxRzV3gtDc>
2. Write the following questions on the board. Now ask students to watch the video again and answer the questions:
  - a. Who asks the questions? [the contestants]
  - b. Who reads out the scene? [the quiz master]
  - c. What do the contestants have to do? [have a conversation using questions only]
  - d. What happens if you answer a question with a statement? [you're buzzed out and another team member steps in to continue the conversation with the contestant on the opposing team]
  - e. Who wins? [the contestant that stays in the longest]
3. Now, tell students they are going to play 'Questions Only' in teams of 3.
4. Invite 2 teams at a time to come to the front of the room and compete against each other.
5. The rest of the class will roleplay the audience.
6. Invite one student from the audience to take the role of 'Quiz master' who will read out a scenario and control the buzzer during the conversation. (eg You are travelling on an international flight in economy class; You are at the supermarket and you see a famous person shopping).
7. Each team nominates their first speaker.
8. The speakers from the two teams begin the questioning, for example:
  - a. Where are you travelling to?
  - b. Why do you want to know?
  - a. Are you going to visit NY or are you flying somewhere else after we land?
  - b. Are you going to visit NY?
  - a. What's the weather like there, do you know?
  - b. Are you planning to do something that requires good weather?
9. When one of the speakers answers with a statement or hesitates too long the other member on the same team takes his/her place.
10. After 3 minutes the student who is the 'Quiz master' must ring the buzzer.
11. The teacher allocates 2 points to the contestant that hesitated the least, made the fewest statements during the conversation and kept asking questions.
12. Now, ask the students to sit down and invite another two teams of students to perform a new scenario.
13. The audience may cheer, boo and have fun!

**GESE Grade 7 Scenario Card**

This weekend I'd like to do some sightseeing.

**GESE Grade 7 Scenario Card**

Last week I was offered two very interesting jobs.

**GESE Grade 7 Scenario Card**

My friend and I would like to do a hobby together  
in our free time.

**GESE Grade 8 Scenario Card**

My friend's daughter is a fantastic singer, but  
she's no longer interested in performing.

**GESE Grade 8 Scenario Card**

My nephew's been doing a lot of training for an  
international sports event.

**GESE Grade 8 Scenario Card**

I was thinking of changing my job, so I've looked  
into various courses.

**GESE Grade 9 Scenario Card**

If I'd taken more notice of my teachers when I was  
growing up, my life would be very different now.

**GESE Grade 9 Scenario Card**

I've been invited to go to a large, outdoor music  
festival next weekend, but I'm not sure whether  
to go.

**GESE Grade 9 Scenario Card**

Many years ago, I had a holiday which changed  
my life.

**GESE Grade 10 Scenario Card**

Many people think that we should spend more time enjoying ourselves and less time trying to make money.

**GESE Grade 10 Scenario Card**

My local school's going to ask a popular TV star to speak to the students about careers.

**GESE Grade 10 Scenario Card**

At my niece's school, homework is optional. Students only have to do it if they want to.

**GESE Grade 11 Scenario Card**

The move towards equal opportunities for men and women has brought about changes to traditional family roles.

**GESE Grade 11 Scenario Card**

Some websites help people to download music and films without paying for them.

**GESE Grade 11 Scenario Card**

Advertising is everywhere in our modern world, wherever you look you see adverts.

**GESE Grade 12 Scenario Card**

It's often said that there should be no limits to the activities of the press even when it comes to people's private lives.

**GESE Grade 12 Scenario Card**

One effect of increased globalisation is that minority languages are gradually becoming extinct.

**GESE Grade 12 Scenario Card**

Some schools encourage competitiveness in their students, while others generally discourage it.