

Activity 6: Headlines

Interaction: Group work/Whole class

Aim: To work out vocabulary from context

Skills: Reading and writing

Vocabulary: Headlines

Materials: Worksheet

Preparation: Make one copy of the worksheet for each group

Time: 15 minutes

Procedure

- 1 Divide the class into small groups.
- 2 Write the following on the board:
Man dies in _____ .
- 3 Ask the students to guess the missing word.
- 4 Award two points for the correct word (blaze), but also award one point for any acceptable answers (e.g. fire, crash, accident).
- 5 Award an extra point for any amusing answers.
- 6 Have a time limit (maybe 30–40 seconds) for the guessing.
- 7 Give out a copy of the worksheet to each group. You can use either the easy or difficult worksheet, but make sure you give the same one to each group.
- 8 Give the groups five minutes to write a word in each gap.
- 9 When the groups have finished, go through the sentences together, awarding points.
- 10 The winner is the team with the most points.

Notes

- You may need to preteach some vocabulary, for example:
 - step up (to increase)
 - outlook (forecast)
 - arrest (detention by police)
 - Voyager (a space shuttle)

Options

- To keep this activity up to date use current headlines. Photocopy ten headlines, blanking out one word in each headline, onto a piece of paper. If you have problems finding English newspapers there are plenty of news resources on the Internet.

Additional ideas

- If you want to extend the activity, ask the groups to write their own headlines to give to another group.

Answers

1. Australian fire could last for days.
2. Murder inquiry after man dies.
3. Voyager finally returns to Earth.
4. Winona Ryder arrested for stealing.
5. Teenage runaway found safe and well.
6. Success in malaria drug test.
7. Denzel Washington wins Oscar.
8. Nicaragua's ex-leader under house arrest.
9. Police step up hunt for student.
10. Stormy winter weather outlook.