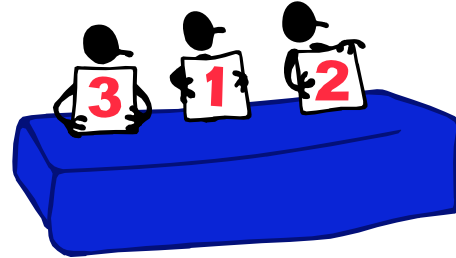




Activity: Whose are these?

Materials needed: A variety of personal objects collected from the students before the start of the activity. A bag to collect all the objects. Three chairs positioned in the front of the class.



Description: This is a guessing game. Before the game starts, instruct the students to take an item from their bags, backpacks, or from their person and drop it in a bag. Items should be varied, for example, a pencil sharpener, a watch, a hair clip, a calculator, car keys, a photo of a relative, a bracelet, a special pen or fancy pencil, a cell phone, a lipstick, a brush, and a library book. Students should think about what item they want to drop in the bag and then they should do so in secret, using their body and the teacher's body to block the view of the item from the rest of the class. The point is not to let anyone know what anyone else is putting in the bag.

Student A randomly selects an object from the bag, holding the item up for all to see. Student A then steps outside for a moment. Meanwhile, the owner of the item goes to sit in front of the class (Student B), facing everyone, and the instructor selects two other students, Students C and D, to sit with the owner.

Student A returns to the class. He or she holds out the item selected and asks "Whose is this/Whose are these?" to Students B, C, and D in front of the class. One of those three students replies "It's mine/They're mine." and briefly tries to convince Student A that the item belongs to him or her.

For example, if the item was a hair clip, the conversation might proceed as follows:

Student A: Whose is this?

Student C: It's mine. My sister left it in my car.

Student B: It's not his. It's mine. Can't you see how I need it for my long hair?

Student D: It's not hers. It's mine. I wore it this morning, but I took it off and put it in my purse.

After Student A hears the arguments, he or she decides who the owner is. More target language can be used if the instructor encourages Student A to say things like "It's not hers because"

Then repeat the activity with another group of four students until everyone in the class has had a chance to participate.