

Activity Ideas: Choral Drills for Grammar

CHORAL DRILLS FOR GRAMMAR

Choral drills are an integral step in any lesson, particularly for new structures. An explanation and a few examples are never enough for students to immediately use new grammar structures in an activity. *Choral Drills for Grammar* thus improves familiarization, automaticity, accuracy, and fluency, so there is better usage and fewer mistakes later.

Step One: The teacher presents the key grammar structure for the lesson. The information is written on the board with examples. In addition, the teacher elicits additional examples from the class as a means to get participation and to gauge comprehension. If there is more than one grammar structure, it's best to present and practice these separately. In other words, present and practice the first structure, then present and practice the second structure.

Step Two: The teacher says aloud sentences one by one, and the class repeats in unison. Use more sentences to repeat with grammar points which the class may find difficult to quickly comprehend or accurately produce.

Step Three: The teacher prompts for the grammar structure with vocabulary. Students now have to consider the full and correct structure. It's advised that after the teacher gives the prompt, he allows one or two seconds to pass before the class says the sentence together. This will allow the weaker students time to think and then participate. For example, if the grammar were on the present perfect:

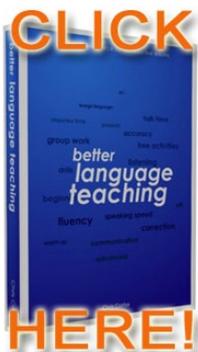
Teacher: visit Australia

Class: I have visited Australia.

Teacher: go rock climbing

Class: I have gone rock climbing.

Step Four: Students now get into pairs and repeat Step Three together. One student plays the role of the teacher and provides the prompts. His partner provides complete sentences. After three minutes, students switch roles.



If you liked this idea and want others, then take a look at my ebook, [Better Language Teaching](#). There are **100 activities** with more than **75 variations** for flexible, fun learning.

Have great classes!

Chris Cotter