TALK AND WALK

Talk and Walk requires student to hold a conversation while performing an unrelated but simple task - walking. The movement proves slightly distracting, particularly so for beginners, so they must more intently concentrate on language production.

Step One: The teacher writes two questions on the board. One question starts the conversation. The other question serves as the emergency back-up question should students get stuck and their conversation lags.

If necessary, the teacher should check comprehension of the questions. He may also want to provide a sample answer for the class.

Step Two: The teacher establishes a start and end point for the walk. Students should be able to walk for at least two minutes, guaranteeing ample time for a real albeit short conversation. A hallway proves ideal, but any large, open space will work almost as well. The classroom may also be used, but desks may need to be moved to provide the needed space.

Step Three: Students get into pairs. One student asks his partner the first question from the board. The partner answers it, as well as provides additional information, follow-up questions, and so on. This is done as the two are walking side by side. Conversations should continue until the pair of students reach the end point indicated by the teacher in Step Two.

Step Four: The teacher wants to ensure enough space between pairs. Once the first pair of students gets ten or fifteen steps ahead, then the second pair of students begins to talk and walk.

Step Five: Steps Three and Four continue until all the students have talked and walked. The teacher may opt to repeat the activity by with new questions, new partners, or both.



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!

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