

Hot Potato

Levels (CEFR)	pre-A1+
Age	Any
Time	5-10 minutes
Materials	A ball (1 per group)

Preparation

Prepare a set of quiz questions about what students have learned or definitions for key vocabulary. Write or display the questions on the board, or give each group a handout with the list of questions.

How to play

- Have students sit in a circle. If you have a large class, divide students into groups of up to eight.
- Ask one of the questions from the list. Throw the ball to one of the students and prompt them to answer. Students have a maximum of three seconds to think before they answer. If they don't know the answer, they can call out "hot potato!" and pass.
- That student then chooses a question and throws the ball to another student.
- Students continue to play until all the questions have been asked and answered.

Note: Each student can only say "hot potato" once during the game (for younger students you may wish to change the limit).

Variation

To practice grammar structures, prepare a set of gapped sentences with the key forms missing or with two options, e.g. *The catsleeping on the sofa*. (present continuous) or *You can / can't run in the classroom* (*can* for permission).

Tip

For very young learners, use flashcards. Have them roll the ball instead of throwing it, and just say "potato" or choose another simpler word for them to use to pass.