

## **TEFL/ESL Activities Using Little or No Resources**

**Compiled by April Gardner**

### **First/Last**

Have students write instructions on how to do something, using “first, then, later, next, last ...” etc.  
Examples: How to tie your shoe, how to bake a cake

### **Introductions**

Pass around a roll of toilet paper. Tell students to take as many squares as they want, without telling them why. Once all students have at least one piece, go around the room and have each student tell something about themselves (one fact per each square).

### **Just a Minute**

Write a list of topics, spread across the blackboard. Have students take turns throwing a paper ball at the board. Have them talk for 30 seconds – 1 minute on whatever topic they choose.

### **Simon Says**

Classic. Either the teacher or a student leads, saying “Simon says ...” followed by a command (example: touch your head). Students are “out” if they perform a task that wasn’t precluded by “Simon says.”

### **Take Off/Touchdown**

Either the teacher or a student can lead this. Begin with students seated. Give a statement and have students stand if that statement applies to them. Example: “Stand up if you have a sister.” Have students sit back down between each statement.

### **Number Jump**

Write the words and numbers for 1-10 separately on pieces of 8x10 paper. Also include a piece of paper with “start” written on it. Line the papers upon the floor. Have a “jumping contest” to see which student can jump to the highest number. Have students repeat the number each classmate jumps to.

### **Rainstorm**

*(Note: This doesn’t use language, but is a good way to “warm up” the classroom, so I am including it here.)*

Have students stand up.

Silently, have them follow along to create a “rainstorm,” using the following actions.

(To begin: Getting louder)

- Rub hands together
- Snap fingers
- Clap hands
- Slap thighs
- Stomp feet

(Now, getting softer)

- Slap thighs
- Clap hands
- Snap fingers
- Rub hands together