

## It Worked Well Wednesday!

Welcome to our fourth edition of 'It Worked Well Wednesday'. I think that I say every week that the chosen activity is one of my favourites but this one really is; Missing Words, No Gaps.

It is another fantastic Conti-style scripted listening activity that works well with learners at every level and in particular Advanced learners if you are able to use an authentic recording that comes with a transcript (we have these in our Resource centre 😊)

How it works:

1. Choose the passage you would like the learners to listen to (remember that you need to have the transcript).
2. Remove words from the passage but don't create a gap!
3. Learners listen to the passage and try to mark where they hear a word that is not in their transcript - I ask them to mark the spot with a '/'. Stress to the learners that they do not need to add the word - they won't have time for this and it is not the purpose of the activity yet. Learners usually need to hear the passage two or three times, feeding back each time on how many words they think are missing. My learners like to keep listening until they have got all of them if possible.
4. You can then go back through the passage with the learners as a reading out loud activity, check where they have placed their '/' and create spaces for the words. (Once I have completed this step with my learners, I usually give them a new script with the gaps marked out for them so that they can do the next stage of the activity more easily.)
5. There are three ways to do the next stage of the activity:
  - a. You can read the passage and this time the learners try to fill in the missing words.
  - b. You can give the learners the missing words in a table and ask a learner to start reading. When another learner thinks they know the missing word, they shout it out and if it is correct, they continue reading until another learner shouts out to fill in the next gap.
  - c. You can ask the learners to work in pairs to fill in the gaps by giving them a table of missing words.

Whichever you method you choose for step 5, it is always useful to then reread the passage once it is completed.

By the end of the activity, the learners may have been through the passage 5 or 6 times so you could use this to springboard into other activities such as:

- a. Asking questions about the passage to check comprehension
- b. Saying some statements about the passage and asking the learners if they are true or false
- c. Asking learners to quickly skim read and highlight examples of a specific structure.

We have attached an example for you of a tutor-read 'Missing Words, No Gaps' activity focusing on the Near Future tense. We have spaced it out over 4 pages so that you can choose to do stage 5 of the activity as you prefer.

We hope you and your learners enjoy this activity !