

8B Who on earth ...?

Activity type: Speaking – Guessing game – Groups

Aim: To describe the use, composition and origin of objects

Language: Passive forms – Use any time after 8.2.

Preparation: Cut up the invention cards.

Time: 20 minutes





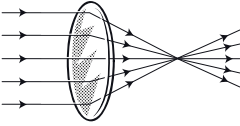

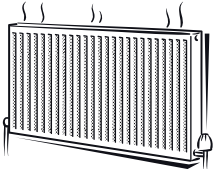
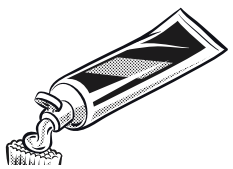



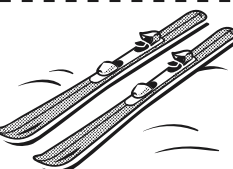

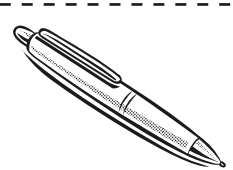
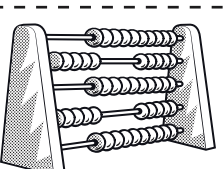

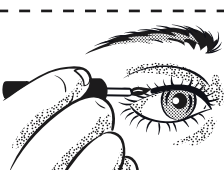

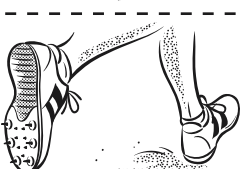

- 1 Take one card (for example ‘central heating’). Explain that you have an invention and are going to give clues to the class to help them guess what your invention is.
- 2 Using the passive where possible, give clues, pausing after each to invite guesses from the class. For example: *It’s used in winter and maybe at other times in cold countries; It’s something that’s in your home; It’s used to make a building more comfortable; If you don’t have it, you might be cold; It’s a complete system in your house or flat.*
- 3 When learners guess what it is, invite them to guess when and where it was invented.
- 4 Give each learner one invention card. (If there are not enough invention cards to go round, ask some learners to work in pairs and share a card. This would be particularly useful with weaker learners who might need more support in constructing their passive sentences.) Make sure learners understand key vocabulary from the cards.
- 5 As in your demonstration, learners prepare clues for their invention. In groups, learners give their clues and invite guesses as to the invention – the first correct guess wins the card.

Groups guess when they think the invention was first used/invented.

Alternative

Learners read out the historical information about the invention (i.e. where and when it was invented/used etc.) and give clues using the past passive. The other learners guess what the inventions were.

8B Who on earth ...?

	<p>Ice skates: invented in Finland, about 5,000 years ago</p>		<p>Magnifying glass: developed by the Venetians about 1,000 years ago</p>
	<p>Perfume: used in Cyprus 4,000 years ago</p>		<p>Scissors: probably invented about 3,500 years ago in Egypt</p>
	<p>Lenses: used by the Assyrians about 3,000 years ago</p>		<p>Contact lenses: first described by Leonardo da Vinci in the 16th century</p>
	<p>Central heating: invented by the Romans about 2,000 years ago</p>		<p>Toothpaste: probably invented about 5,000 – 7,000 years ago in Egypt</p>
	<p>Dentist's drill: used in the Indus valley about 9,000 years ago</p>		<p>Toothbrush: probably developed in Babylon and Egypt about 5,000 – 5,500 years ago</p>
	<p>Magnetic compass: invented in China almost 2,500 years ago</p>		<p>Skis: probably developed in Scandinavia about 4,500 years ago</p>
	<p>Toilet paper: used in sixth-century China</p>		<p>Ballpoint pen: patented by John Loud in America in 1888 but not produced</p>
	<p>Abacus: used in China over 2,000 years ago</p>		<p>Socks: worn by Greeks and Romans about 2,800 years ago</p>
	<p>Eyeliner: invented in ancient Egypt</p>		<p>Coat hanger: patented in America in the early 20th century</p>
	<p>Running spikes: developed in England in the 19th century</p>		<p>Aeroplane: early model designed by Leonardo da Vinci in the 15th century</p>