

# 11C Spot the similarities

**Activity type:** Speaking – Information gap – Pairs

**Aim:** To find similarities in two pictures

**Language:** *There is ... , There are ...* / Language for describing scenes – Use any time after *Explore* Keyword *there*.

**Preparation:** Make one copy of the worksheet for every two learners. Cut the pictures out. Take some magazines or newspapers into class.

**Time:** 15–20 minutes

- 1 Choose a picture of a scene from a magazine or newspaper. (The scenes should involve people, places, shops and, possibly, animals. Some examples: a shopping mall, a busy street, a beach.) Don't show it to the class. Give other magazines/newspapers to groups of three or four learners and ask them to look through and find a picture of a scene. (Give them the above guidelines for choosing a scene.) Elicit similarities between your picture and theirs by asking questions such as: *Is it inside or outside? Are there any people in your scene? What are they doing? There's a dog in my picture, are there any animals in yours?* Ask learners to ask you questions also. Spend no more than five minutes on this and then show your picture to the learners and ask them to show theirs to you. Quickly go over the similarities you have found.
- 2 Divide learners into pairs. Give each pair the two worksheet pictures, face down. Tell each learner to take a picture but not to let their partner see it. Learners study their pictures for two minutes. Each learner says what the picture depicts (i.e. railway station or airport). A and B take turns to ask and answer questions about their pictures. Remind learners that they can occasionally give a piece of information about what is in their picture before asking a question (see example involving the dog above). Ask learners to keep a note of the similarities they notice. Set a time limit for this part of the activity. (Suggested time limit is five minutes.)
- 3 After the time is up, ask how many similarities each pair has found. The pair that has found the most leads a feedback session with the rest of the class.

## Extension

Ask students to bring in pictures of their own. Give them scene types to choose from (see examples above) and then put them in pairs or groups to repeat the information gap activity.

# 11C Spot the similarities

A



B

