

7A Past simple board game

Activity type: Speaking – Board game – Groups of four

Aim: To practise using past simple verbs

Language: Past simple positive – Coursebook p55 – Grammar

Materials: Make one copy of the worksheet for every four learners. Make sure you have one counter for each learner and one coin for every four learners.

Time: 20–25 minutes

- 1 Write *cook* on the board. Ask learners what the past simple of *cook* is (*cooked*). Now say a sentence about yourself which is true or false, using this verb, e.g. *Last night, I cooked dinner for my family*. Write this on the board. Learners guess whether your sentence is true or false.
- 2 Underline *Last night* and elicit other time expressions we use with the past simple. Write these on the board, e.g. *yesterday, last Saturday, on Monday afternoon, last weekend, last week, last year*.
- 3 Put learners into groups of four. Give each group a worksheet. Give one counter to each learner.
- 4 Learners put all their counters on the START square and decide who is going to start. Learners then toss a coin and move the counter one square for a ‘head’ or two squares for a ‘tail’. Learners say a sentence using the verb in the square in the past simple which can be true or false, or follow the instruction to ‘Go back’, as appropriate. Learners can use one of the example expressions in the square, or they can use their own. The other learners guess whether the sentence is true or false. Each learner who guesses wrong misses the next turn.
- 5 Go round and check to make sure the past simple is being used correctly.
- 6 The game continues until one learner reaches the FINISH square.
- 7 *Round-up*. A few learners tell the class one thing they learned about someone else in their group.

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<p>17</p> <p>stay ... at home ... in bed ... in a café</p>	<p>18</p> <p>have ... a coffee ... a shower</p>	<p>19</p> <p>finish ... work /school ... reading a book ... my homework</p>	<p>20</p> <p>FINISH</p>
<p>16</p> <p>go ... to a party ... to the cinema</p>	<p>15</p> <p>GO BACK THREE SQUARES</p>	<p>14</p> <p>work ... at home ... on the computer ... late</p>	<p>13</p> <p>cook ... dinner ... at home ... a lot of food</p>
<p>9</p> <p>GO BACK THREE SQUARES</p>	<p>10</p> <p>write ... an email ... a letter</p>	<p>11</p> <p>phone ... a friend ... my parents ... my teacher</p>	<p>12</p> <p>meet ... a friend ... my teacher</p>
<p>8</p> <p>have ... lunch ... dinner</p>	<p>7</p> <p>go ... shopping ... for a walk</p>	<p>6</p> <p>watch ... television ... a DVD ... a film</p>	<p>5</p> <p>GO BACK THREE SQUARES</p>
<p>1</p> <p>START</p>	<p>2</p> <p>start ... learning English ... my homework ... reading a book</p>	<p>3</p> <p>get up ... late ... at 6.00 ... early</p>	<p>4</p> <p>listen ... to some music ... to the radio</p>