

Gobbledygook

01

Gobbledygook 01

Talking in Gobbledygook means speaking in a made-up language which is often characterised by use of nonsense words and lots of accompanying gestures.

The following cards can be used for a role play/improvisation game in the classroom for two pupils. One of the pupils speaks in Gobbledygook and the other pupil, who understands the Gobbledygook, translates/interprets it for the audience (the rest of the class).

After deciding who will be speaking Gobbledygook and who will be the Interpreter, each pair of pupils randomly selects one of the following cards for the improvisation. On each card is the topic of the improvisation – all are “how to do” things.

The pupil speaking gobbledygook begins “explaining” the “how to do” topic using nonsense language and gestures. He/she should pause every few sentences to allow the Interpreter to explain what is being said in English for the audience. They continue the scene until the explanation is finished.

The pupils could prepare the improvisation in advance to start, but as they become more proficient, they could then just make it up “on the spot”. Make sure all pupils get a turn to be the person speaking Gobbledygook as well as the Interpreter.

The improvisations don’t really need any special equipment or props. All that is really needed is a space to perform the improvisation.

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The aim of the improvisation should be about pupils staying in character, explaining the topic step by step and the ability of both pupils to “think on their feet” in reacting to each other. The focus should also be on fluency of thought.

Pupils need to be reminded that you want to hear them speak as they act out the scenario, so it will not work if they just laugh their way through the improvisation.

Most of all, this improvisation game should turn out to be such great fun!

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1



You're talking about:

**How to tie
your shoes**

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2



You're talking about:

**How to swim
in a pool**

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3



You're talking about:

**How to ride a
bicycle**

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4



You're talking about:

**How to make
a sandwich**

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5



You're talking about:

**How to change
a light bulb**

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6



You're talking about:

**How to change
a car tyre**

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7



You're talking about:

**How to fix a
broken remote
control**

Gobbledygook 01

8



You're talking about:

**How to clean
windows**

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9



You're talking about:

**How to make
a cup of tea**

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10



You're talking about:

**How to get
ready for
school**

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11



You're talking about:

**How to iron a
shirt**

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12



You're talking about:

**How to brush
your teeth
properly**

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13



You're talking about:

**How to play a
guitar**

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14



You're talking about:

**How to light a
fire**

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15



You're talking about:

**How to turn
on a computer**

Gobbledygook 01

16



You're talking about:

**How to do
mouth to mouth
resuscitation**

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17



You're talking about:

**How to hang a
picture on a
wall**

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18



You're talking about:

**How to fry an
egg**

Gobbledygook 01

19



You're talking about:

**How to
reverse a car
into a space**

Gobbledygook 01

20



You're talking about:

**How to lift
gym weights
properly**