



Hot Seat

Level: Any

Timing: 10 - 30 mins

Resources: Whiteboard

Language: Anything

Plan: Place a chair in front of the whiteboard, facing the group. Tell the trainees that this chair is the 'hot seat'. Ask a volunteer to come to the front and sit in the hot seat. The volunteer sits facing away from the whiteboard.

Tell the trainees that you will write a word on the board, and they will explain/define the word for the volunteer. They can only speak English. They cannot use their hands. The volunteer tries to guess the word.

Start with an easy word, e.g. 'car'. When the volunteer has guessed the answer, say "well done."

Now divide the group into 3 teams. Each team takes a turn to choose one trainee to sit in the hot seat and define the given word.

Set a time limit (1 or 2 minutes). If the trainee guesses the answer, award a point to their team, otherwise time them out.

Start easy but make it progressively more challenging. When the game finishes, give a round of applause to the winners.

Alternative / Extension Activities:

A variation of this game is to have two or three teams competing at the same time. Place two / three chairs in front of the whiteboard and divide the group into two / three teams.

Ask one team member to come to the front and sit on a chair, facing their team.

The trainee in a hot seat who guesses the word first from their team's description will win the point. Repeat the game, with different team members having a turn in the hot seat.

Comments: This is a good game for revising and pre-teaching vocab. With stronger groups, you can try it with complete sentences/phrases.