

Verb patterns sentence completion guessing games

Play the game or games below that your teacher tells you to.

Game A: Verb patterns sentence completion guessing game

Fill at least half the sentences below with true information for you. Read out just the part that you have written in one gap (not the printed words around it) and see if your partner can guess which sentence you wrote those words in (from the grammar of the words you say, the logic of the sentence, and what your partner knows and can guess about you).

Useful phrases for playing the sentence completion guessing game

“No, that isn’t possible (grammatically) because... Please try again.”

“No, it can’t be that because.... Any other ideas?”

“That would have to be... to be grammatically correct, and my sentence was...”

“No, that doesn’t make (much) sense because... Have another go.”

“No, that isn’t true (for me) because... Which other sentence could it be, do you think?”

“That’s possible, but...”

“That’s grammatically correct, but...”

“That’s close, but...”/ “Good guess, but...”

“That is also true, but it isn’t the sentence I’ve written. Can you think of another?”

“Yes, that is exactly what I’ve written. It’s your turn.”

Game B: Verb patterns sentence completion bluff

Fill the sentences below with a mixture of true and false information, being very careful to put the right grammar in each gap. Read out one sentence and see if your partner can guess whether it is a fact or not, perhaps after answering questions about that thing. (You can continue lying if it was a made-up example).

Game C: Verb patterns sentence completion things in common

In pairs or small groups, try to find sentences below that you can both/ all complete in the same way.

Verb patterns grammar presentation and speaking practice

Before, during or after the activities above, go through what grammatical form is needed in each of the gaps below.

Try to find verbs below which have similar or opposite meanings and the same grammatical form after them.

Play another game above, this time just saying what you would put in each gap (without writing first).

Verb pattern sentences to complete and guess about your partner

- I aim _____ by the end of this year.
- I always dread _____.
- I asked _____ (but they refused).
- I can't afford _____ but I want to.
- I can't remember ever _____.
- I can't stand _____.
- I could teach _____.
- I don't let my boyfriend/ girlfriend/ husband/ wife/ partner/ brother/ sister _____.

- I don't mind _____ (even though many people hate it).
- I enjoy _____ (but it is bad for me).
- I expect my best friend _____.
- I hope _____ someday (but I might never do it).
- I have made my boyfriend/ girlfriend/ husband/ wife/ partner/ brother/ sister _____.

- I miss _____.
- I object _____ (but most other people don't seem to care).
- I often forget _____.
- I often stop _____ when I am driving/ cycling/ walking a long way.
- I often waste time _____.
- I really should stop _____ (but I probably won't).
- I regret _____.
- I tried _____, but it didn't work.
- I tried _____, but I couldn't.
- I try to avoid _____ (but sometimes I have no choice).
- I would love _____ (if I had enough money).
- I would pay _____ (I hate it so much).
- I would warn foreign people coming to this city _____.
- I wouldn't allow my grandchildren _____.
- I'd love to _____, (but I'm not sure that I ever will).
- I'd refuse _____, (however much they paid me).
- I'll never forget _____.
- I'll never get used _____.
- I'll probably keep (on) _____ (even though I should stop).
- I'm really looking forward _____.
- I've decided _____ (but I haven't done it yet).
- I've totally stopped _____.
- Last month I forgot _____.
- Many people object _____, but I don't.
- My grandfather/ grandmother wanted _____ (but I didn't).
- My parents allowed _____ (unlike other parents).
- My parents encouraged me _____.
- My parents made _____ (unlike other parents).
- One of my teachers inspired _____.
- You'd have to beg _____ (before I would do it).