

Communicative Grammar Game 2

Objective To provide practice speaking about recent past events.

Grammar *I played basketball three days ago.*

Interaction teams

Materials coins (2 per group)

Preparation Make copies of Game 2 (1 per group).

Directions

Divide the class into groups of four. Hand out a game board and two coins to each group (see *Materials* and *Preparation*). Show which side is “heads” and which is “tails.” Explain how tossing the coins determines the number of squares that students will advance.

Demonstrate the game with two students. Toss the two coins to determine how many squares you move ahead. Use a marker (e.g., an eraser or a paper clip) to indicate where you ended up on the board. Then make a sentence in the past, using the verb or time expression indicated in the square.

Explain that for the verb boxes, students can use any time expression they like. For the boxes where time expressions are indicated, students should use those. If the sentence is correct, the player can stay on the square. If the sentence is incorrect, the player needs to return to the square that he/she came from:

T: *I ate spaghetti yesterday. It was delicious!*

S1: *Correct! I traveled to Cancun two years ago.*

Tell students that if they fall on a square with a ladder, they can go up after giving a correct sentence. If they fall on a square with a snake, they need to go down and make a sentence with the lower box.

Invite students to start playing. Monitor but don’t interrupt unless needed. When most teams have finished, stop the game and collect the boards. Toss two coins and read the verb aloud. Name volunteers to give a complete sentence while the class decides if it’s correct or not.