

## 2A Past tense pelmanism / What about you?

*You will need: one set of cards per three or four students;  
one copy of the What about you? worksheet per student*

### STAGE 1

- Students work in groups of three or four. Give each group a set of cards and tell them to spread them out in front of them face **down**.
- Each student turns over two cards. If they find a verb and its irregular past tense, they keep the cards as a 'trick' and have another turn. If the cards do not match, they replace them in exactly the same place.
- The activity continues until all the cards are matched up. The student with the most tricks is the winner.

### STAGE 2

- Give each student a copy of the *What about you?* worksheet. Make sure they write their answers on a separate piece of paper in random order. They should write single words or short phrases, not complete sentences. Set a time limit of five minutes.
- Students work in pairs or small groups, and swap papers. They ask each other to explain why they have written the items on the paper. Encourage them to find out more information by asking suitable follow-up questions. Students report back to the class on the most interesting things they found out about their partner(s).

## Past tense pelmanism / What about you?

Irregular Past simple forms

|       |         |       |         |
|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| feel  | felt    | fall  | fell    |
| bring | brought | buy   | bought  |
| teach | taught  | think | thought |
| sleep | slept   | sing  | sang    |
| stand | stood   | wear  | wore    |
| lose  | lost    | fly   | flew    |
| dream | dreamt  | run   | ran     |
| spend | spent   | read  | read    |

### What about you?

On a **separate** piece of paper, write down **short** answers to the following points. Write the answers wherever you want on the page, but **not** in the same order as below.

- something you brought to school today
- how you felt at the beginning of the lesson
- the last time you fell in love
- something you bought last week
- the last time you slept for less than six hours
- something your teacher taught you last lesson
- the last time you sang
- something you thought was frightening when you were a child.
- the last time you stood somewhere for over an hour
- something you wore last weekend that you really like
- the last thing you lost
- how much money you spent yesterday
- the last time you flew somewhere
- the last time you ran more than 100 metres
- what you dreamt about last night
- the last book you read

## 4 Irregular verb game

1 A

A card game which is a form of pelmanism, played in small groups to practise irregular past tenses and past participles. Copy one sheet per four SS and cut up into cards. With an odd number of students, put three or five in one group.

### LANGUAGE

Irregular verbs: past simple and past participle

- Show SS how to play the game by shuffling the cards and arranging them face down on your table. Then ask a student to turn up a card. Ask him what it is (past simple

or past participle) and what the infinitive is. If it's past simple, tell the student he/she must now say what the past participle is, and try to find it. He/she turns up another card. If it's the corresponding past participle, he/she keeps the pair of cards, and has another turn. If not he/she must put the cards back in the same place where they were, and another student has a turn.

- Highlight that:
  - SS have to say what the card they need is **before** they try to find it (e.g. S1 turns up FALLEN. He/she must first say *It's the past participle of fall, so now I have to find the past which is fell.* Then he/she tries to turn up FELL.
  - SS must always put the card back in the same place, unless they get a pair in which case they keep both cards.
  - SS must watch what cards other SS turn up **to try to remember where the cards are.**
- Stop after a student has won, or after, e.g. 10 minutes.
- Find out who won (or got the most pairs) from each group.

### Alternative activity

- In pairs or groups of four, SS place the cards in the middle face down. A takes a card. If it's a past simple (e.g. *ate*), he/she invents a question beginning *When was the last time you* (*ate Mexican food?*). If it's a past participle (e.g. *worn*), he/she makes a question beginning *Have you ever* (*worn a big hat?*). If the card could be either past or participle (e.g. *felt*), A can choose which type of question to ask.
- The other SS in the group have to answer the questions.

|                |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>HID</b>     | <b>HIDDEN</b>  | <b>HURT</b>    |
| <b>HURT</b>    | <b>THOUGHT</b> | <b>THOUGHT</b> |
| <b>CHOSE</b>   | <b>CHOSEN</b>  | <b>WROTE</b>   |
| <b>WRITTEN</b> | <b>FLEW</b>    | <b>FLOWN</b>   |
| <b>HEARD</b>   | <b>HEARD</b>   | <b>WORE</b>    |
| <b>WORN</b>    | <b>STOLE</b>   | <b>STOLEN</b>  |
| <b>FELL</b>    | <b>FALLEN</b>  | <b>LOST</b>    |
| <b>LOST</b>    | <b>ATE</b>     | <b>EATEN</b>   |
| <b>FELT</b>    | <b>FELT</b>    | <b>TOOK</b>    |
| <b>TAKEN</b>   | <b>DRANK</b>   | <b>DRUNK</b>   |