

What's the topic?

Time	30–45 minutes
Interaction	Groups of 3–5 learners
Level	B1 (Intermediate) to C1 (Advanced)

Language areas practised

Sub-skills and Functions

- improving short, topic-based speaking turns
- speaking fluently without pausing
- asking questions spontaneously

Grammar and Lexis

- spoken discourse markers and conjunctions (also, and/ another thing, because, etc.)
- various topics

Preparation

Photocopy the **Rules of the game**, the **Game board** and a set of **Topic cards** from pages 123–124 of the Resource Bank (one of each per group). Choose the 'easy' topic cards for lower level learners and the 'challenging' cards for higher level learners. Cut up the Topic cards as indicated. Players need one counter each (e.g. coins), one dice and one timer (e.g. a watch or phone) per group.

Notes

Before players begin, draw their attention to the first 'If...' rule to highlight the importance of monitoring each other's language during the game.

Variations

- Instead of using Topic cards, learners prepare for the game by writing a list of topics directly in the squares on the board (e.g. '1 minute about...' the party last night) and enable them to personalise the topics to their interests and knowledge. Allow an extra 10 minutes for this.

What's the topic?

Game board

FINISH	Ask 3 questions about...	Speak for 1 minute about...	Go back 3 spaces	Speak for 1 minute about...
WHAT'S THE TOPIC?				
Ask 2 questions about...	Speak for 1 minute about...	Say 1 sentence about...	Go back 1 space	Speak for 30 seconds about...
Speak for 30 seconds about...	PUT THE TOPIC CARDS HERE!			Go back 2 spaces
Go back 3 spaces				
Say 1 sentence about...	Go forward 1 space	Speak for 30 seconds about...	Ask 2 questions about...	Say 1 sentence about...
WHAT'S THE TOPIC?				
START	Say 1 sentence about...	Speak for 30 seconds about...	Speak for 1 minute about...	Ask 1 question about...
				Go back 2 spaces
				Go forward 1 space

What's the topic?

Rules of the game

Preparation

Play in groups of 3–5. Each group needs a **Game board**, a set of **Topic cards**, a dice, a timer (e.g. a watch or phone) and some counters (e.g. coins). Place the Topic cards face down on the board. Each player places a counter on the **Start** square, ready to begin.

How to play

Take turns to roll the dice and move your counter on a square, follow the instructions on the card. Speak for 1 minute about... (the topic on the card).

How to win

The first player to reach **Finish** wins the game.

If...

- If the square says 'Speak for 30 seconds about...' or 'Speak for 1 minute about...', you take a Topic card and speak for this time on the topic without pausing or repeating any ideas.
- If the square says 'Say 1 sentence about...', you take a Topic card and say one sentence about the topic.
- If the card says 'Ask 1/2/3 questions about...', you take a Topic card and ask questions to other players on this topic, who should answer.
- If the card says 'Go forward/back 1/2/3 spaces', you should do this and then follow the instructions on the new square you land on.
- If you cannot carry out the instruction, you go back to your previous square.

Opinion Olympics

Time 20–40 minutes
Interaction Groups of 3–6 learners
Level B2 (Upper Intermediate) to C1 (Advanced)

Language areas practised

Sub-skills and Functions

- expressing opinions
- agreeing and disagreeing
- providing reasons

Grammar and Lexis

- expressions for giving opinions, agreeing and disagreeing

Preparation

Photocopy the **Rules of the game**, the **Game board** and the **Opinion cards** from page 116 of the Resource book (one

of each per group). Remove any Opinion cards that you feel may be unsuitable for your learners. Cut up the Opinion cards as indicated. Players need one counter each (e.g. a coin or one dice per group).
 If appropriate, check usage of the agreeing and disagreeing gambits around the Game board such as 'I think it depends on...' and 'Another reason why people...'

Notes

The learner who begins the game should respond to the opinion on the Current card, unlike when playing 'NEW CARD Do you agree?'. For the rest of the game, learners should be agreeing/disagreeing with the previously voiced opinion, rather than the opinion on the Current card. This encourages them to listen to each other and react naturally using the gambits around the board.

Variations

- Players deal out several Opinion cards before they start playing. This saves time (10 minutes, but leads to more animated discussions).

Opinion Olympics

Rules of the game

Preparation

Play in groups of 3–6. Each group needs one counter and a set of **Opinion cards**, a dice and some counters (e.g. coins). Place the Opinion cards face down on the board. Turn over the top card and place it on the **CURRENT CARD** square. Each player places their counter on **START** to begin.

How to play

Take turns to roll the dice and move around the board. When you land on a square you react to the opinion and give a reason. Your reaction depends on the square you land on: Agree, Disagree, etc. Move on if you are familiar with all the expressions surrounding the board before you begin as you will need them for expressing your opinions.

How to win

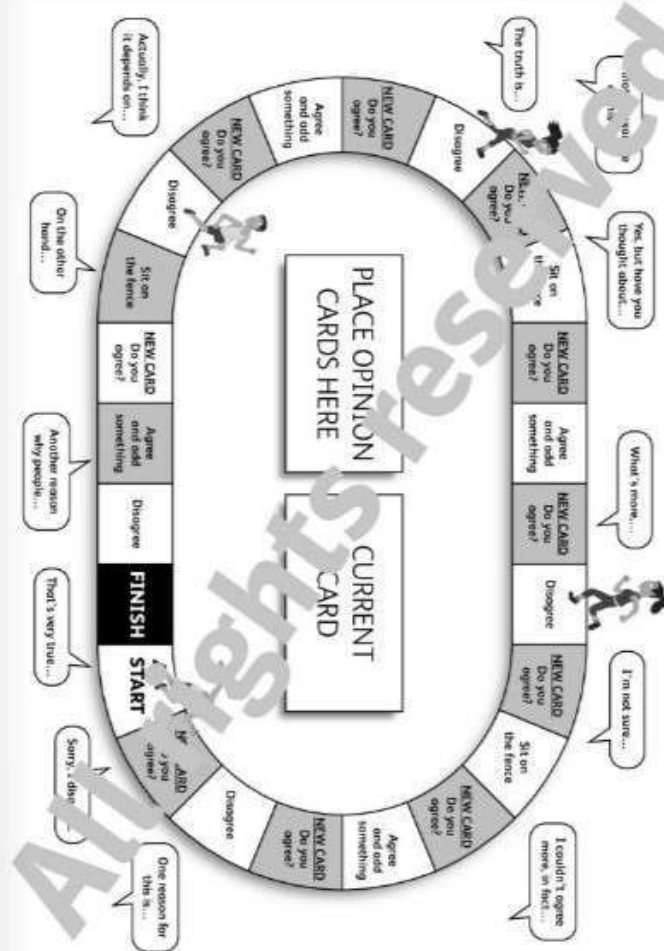
The first player to reach **FINISH** wins the game.

If...

- If you land on 'NEW CARD Do you agree?', you turn over a new Opinion card and say whether you agree or not, providing a reason for your opinion.
- If you land on 'Disagree', you should disagree with the last speaker and give a reason.
- If you land on 'Agree and add something', you agree with the last speaker and provide an additional reason.
- If you land on 'Sit on the fence', you express a balanced opinion that acknowledges both sides of the argument.
- If you can't think of a reason for your opinion, you go back to your previous position and wait your next turn!

Opinion Olympics

Game board



Supermarket Scramble

Time	30–50 minutes
Interaction	Groups of 3–5 learners
Level	B1 (Intermediate) to B2 (Upper Intermediate)

Language areas practised

Sub-skills and Functions

- giving personal information
- describing dishes, food and diets
- naming items in a list

Grammar and Lexis

- present simple tense
- food and shopping
- health and diets

Supermarket Scramble – Shopping Lists

Player A Shopping List	Player B Shopping List	Player C Shopping List	Player D Shopping List	Player E Shopping List
fresh onions	eggs	fresh croissants	a birthday cake	shower-gel
pesto sauce	mint mouthwash	corn flakes	fresh lemons	fresh carrots
milk	chocolate biscuits	colour-remover for dry hair	strawberry yoghurt	ice cream
oven chips	frozen lasagne	pepper spray	curry powder	fresh prawns
fresh tuna steaks	ripe bananas	shower with conditioner	fresh fillet steak	beers for hamburgers
loaf of wholemeal bread; a fresh turkey		frozen pizza	mozzarella cream	peanut butter

Supermarket Scramble

Rules of the game

Preparation

Play in groups of 3–5. Each group needs a **Game board**, a **die**, and a **Shopping list** (see examples (e.g. corns) for each player). Each player places their counter on **ENTRANCE** to begin.

How to play

Take turns to roll the die and move in any direction. You may move a number of squares indicated. You can't turn around during a move or move diagonally. See the 'If ...' rules for how to pick up products on your shopping list and what to do when you land on a square.

The first player to get to **CHECKOUT** with all the products on her list wins the game.

Preparation

Photocopy the **Rules of the game**, the **Game board** and the **Shopping lists** (one of each per group). Cut up the Shopping lists as indicated. Players need one counter each (e.g. coin) and one dice per group.

Notes

This is quite a skillful game as players check out what to move in order to pick up the products on their shopping list. At lower levels, students may need to check with the teacher about which products are found in which departments.

Variations

- Lower Levels** – Begin by using a range of food products from the five Shopping lists on the boards along with the five departments. Learners work in pairs to categorise the foods and then play the game.

Supermarket Scramble

Game board

ENTRANCE START HERE

TOILETRIES
What do you need to wash your face?
What do you need to wash your hair?
What do you need to wash your hands?
What do you need to wash your feet?

BREAD & BAKED PRODUCTS
What do you need to bake bread?
What do you need to bake cakes?
What do you need to bake pastries?

FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES
What do you need to make a salad?
What do you need to make a smoothie?
What do you need to make a juice?

DAIRY
What do you need to make a sandwich?
What do you need to make a pizza?
What do you need to make a burger?

MEAT & FISH
What do you need to make a burger?
What do you need to make a sandwich?
What do you need to make a pizza?

ROZEN FROZEN
What do you need to make a pizza?
What do you need to make a burger?
What do you need to make a sandwich?

CHECKOUT
Have you got everything on your list?
Have you ever tried to use a self-service checkout?

Supermarket Scramble!!!