

Teaching ideas

Classic dominoes game

- Prepare a set of cards for each group of three or four students. Remember to write the **'answer' on the left** and the **'question' on the right** of each card, so that the cards will form a ring when the answers are matched to the questions.

The numbers on the dominoes cards are there to demonstrate how the matching works, and will not show up on print out if overwritten.

Here are some suggestions for language points you could work on:

Left ('answer')	Right ('question')
picture	word
translation	word in English
synonym (e.g. <i>fantastic</i>)	word (e.g. <i>wonderful</i>)
opposite (e.g. <i>awful</i>)	word (e.g. <i>wonderful</i>)
example of tense	name of tense
number in figures	number in spots
number in words	number in figures
digital time	time on a clock
time in words	time on a clock
date in numbers	date in words
response (e.g. <i>Fine, thanks.</i>)	initiation (e.g. <i>How are you?</i>)
answer	question about a text

- Alternatively, get students to think of their own ideas for points to revise using the dominoes.

Question and answer chain

- Give each student a domino card. Each domino should have a question on the right and the answer to a different question on the left. Students have to match the question with the answer by going round the room asking their question until they find the student with the answer card. They should then link arms. The activity continues until all the students are linked together in a ring round the room. If you don't have the right number of students to complete the ring, then a linear chain will do!
- As an alternative, give each student half a domino with an answer on. The teacher or another student has the question halves. When students hear a question they think they have the answer to, they should shout their answer out.

Essay planning or textual analysis

- Dominoes work really well as a way to show the relationship between ideas or texts. Ask students to look at two ideas, themes, poems or newspaper articles on the same topic.
- Now give each student a domino card (ideally printed onto card). Their task is to write a point about each idea/theme/text, on each half of the domino.
- Students then have to work as a class (you might want to split the class into two large groups) and link up their domino cards according to relevant or connected points and themes in order to show a link or relationship between their ideas. Students shouldn't worry about being linear in their connections, but certain strands and sub strands will begin to emerge. Ideally, the dominoes will create paragraphs, but due to the fact that the dominoes don't have to go in a straight line, you may well end up with quite elaborate patterns to show the relationship between ideas.
- You could collect the domino tiles in at the end of the lesson, and photocopy them onto sheets to give to students for revision. Alternatively, they could be used as topic sentences for paragraphs of an essay / text.

