

## Jigsaw reading

### Reader what a teacher says about this activity

'Jigsaw reading is a great way to introduce speaking into a reading lesson. Each learner reads part of the text and then tells another about it. At the end they all have a complete text, just like a jigsaw puzzle.'

<b>Stage 1: Prepare</b>	<p>Choose a text that can be divided into two parts. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• two paragraphs from a coursebook</li><li>• a newspaper article</li><li>• a story from a book</li><li>• a text you have written yourself.</li></ul> <p>Write the two texts on either side of the board. Alternatively, you could make copies, or write on large paper/card. If you are using a coursebook, the learners can read from their books.</p> <p>Label one text A and the other B.</p> <p>Prepare a few comprehension questions for each part of the story.</p>
<b>Stage 2: Introduce</b>	<p>Say: 'In this activity you will read part of a story. Your partner will read the other part. You will then share what you have read with each other. Think carefully about the key ideas in your part of the story.'</p>
<b>Stage 3: Model</b>	<p>Write these strategies for finding key ideas on the board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Read the whole text.</li><li>2. Ask yourself questions:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Who is it about?</li><li>• What are they doing?</li><li>• Why are they doing it?</li><li>• Where is it happening?</li><li>• When is it happening?</li></ul></li><li>3. Underline the words that tell you the answers.</li></ol> <p>To demonstrate this, write a short text on the board. Work with the learners to use these strategies to find the key words or ideas in the text.</p> <p>Say: 'Let's read the text together to get the main idea. Now let's ask ourselves some questions. Who is the story about? Find the words in the story.'</p> <p>Select a learner to come and underline the answer.</p> <p>Ask the rest of the questions and underline the key ideas.</p>

<b>Stage 4: Work in pairs</b>	Ask learners to find a partner. Say: 'First you are going to work on your own. Find the key ideas.' One learner reads text A and the other reads text B. Give them time to read their text and underline the key ideas. Circulate, monitor and help. Say: 'Now work with your partner. Tell them about your part of the text and listen to them tell you about their part. Answer the questions together.'
<b>Stage 5: Check and give feedback</b>	After the learners have shared their texts, they can read the other text. Ask: 'Did you enjoy sharing the reading? Why/why not?'

**Once learners have done this several times, you can divide the text into more than two parts. Each section can cover a different concept. Vary the lesson by giving learner B questions to ask learner A about their text and vice versa.**

**Author: British Council**