



Activity: Liar! Liar!

Materials needed: None

Description: Students tell four interesting, unusual, or unexpected facts about themselves. One of the “facts,” however, is untrue. The other students have to guess which statement is the lie by using the noun clause question format “Is it really true that ...?”

This activity works well in groups of 5-8 students. This group size allows for ample opportunity to practice the noun clause idiom, without having many students stay silent too long while awaiting a turn.



Either before or after they are in a group, students should be given 10 minutes to come up with their four statements. Coach them to not make their lie too obvious. Sometimes the most banal statement is an effective lie!

Example:

Student A:

- “I have seen UFOs in the Bermuda Triangle.”
- “I’ve been in a motorcycle accident.”
- “I’ve hiked down the Grand Canyon.”
- “I hate coffee.”

Student B: “Is it really true that you hate coffee?”

Student A: “Yes, it’s true.”

Student C: “Is it really true that you have seen UFOs?”

Student A: “Completely true!”

Student D: “Is it really true that you’ve hiked down the Grand Canyon?”

Student A: “No, I’m afraid that isn’t true.”

As a whole-class follow-up, students can report some of the more interesting facts about their classmates with the noun clause prompts:

“I was astounded/amazed/surprised/impressed ...”

Example: “I was amazed that Lu has seen UFOs.”