

TEACHER'S NOTES

Dominoes: *Since* and *for*
by Jill Hadfield

Level: Upper Intermediate
Target age: Secondary / adult
Time needed: 15-20 minutes
Grammar objective: To practise <i>since</i> and <i>for</i> with time expressions
Materials: Each group of four students will need a full set of cut-outs.
Summary: This is an accuracy-based activity based on the game of dominoes for groups of four students.

Procedure

It is best to set up this game by demonstrating what to do with one group while the others watch.

1. Divide the class into groups of four students.
2. Give each group a set of cards and ask one member of the group to deal an equal number to each player.
3. Tell the students that they are going to put the cards in the correct order to make sentences using *for* and *since*.
 - The first player begins by putting a 'person' card on the table, e.g.

I

 if he/she has one. If not, the turn passes to the next player.
 - The next player can continue by putting a 'have' card after

I

 if he/she has one that correctly matches the 'person' card, to form

I	have
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.
 - The third player can then put a past participle card down, e.g.

I	have	lived
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 in Auckland.
 - The fourth player adds a *for* or a *since* card.
 - The first player completes the sentence with the right time expression, e.g.

I	have	lived	in
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Auckland

for

six years

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 - If a player cannot add a card, the turn passes to the next player. When one sentence is complete, they can begin a new one.


Please note that although there is a suggested form for each sentence in the grids, there are various correct answers. Students can have a lot of fun with these.

For example, possible correct sentences include 'Jack and Lucy have been on holiday since 1990' and 'My sister has been at university for a very long time'.

4. After playing the game, you could ask students to write down as many correct sentences as they can by using all of the dominoes.

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FUN WITH GRAMMAR CUT-OUTS



I	have	lived in Auckland	for	six years
My sister	has	played the piano	since	she was five
My father	hasn't	been to the doctor	since	1990
Susan	has	been at university	for	the last two years
My brother	has	had that car	for	three months

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I	haven't	played tennis	since	I was a child
We	have	known those friends	since	April
I	haven't	slept properly	for	the last three nights
Jack and Lucy	haven't	been on holiday	since	he got that new job
I	haven't	seen her	for	a very long time