

The alphabet relay

Learning objectives

- Unblocking
- Language acquisition
- Team work

Number of participants

Minimum: 10

Duration

30 minutes

Material

Two flip chart sheets and markers (several different colours)

Description

Two teams stand facing two posters or whiteboards marked with the letters from A to Z (it is also possible to use letters from other alphabets, depending on the languages represented in the seminar). The participants form two lines. It works like a relay race: the goal is to write one word starting with each letter of the alphabet, in alphabetical order (the participants can't write in their mother language, so they have to help each other). The team that manages to fill in the whole alphabet first wins. To make the game a bit more difficult, participants may have to run once around a chair placing in front of their poster before they can write.



The alphabet relay

In the end, everyone reads the posters (without correcting them, as it is a cooperation activity and not a language lesson), which then remain in the seminar room. The facilitating team congratulates all competing teams.

Variants

It is possible to give a theme for the words, depending on the topic of the seminar (for instance, only words related to electronics).

Observations

This activity creates a competitive atmosphere, which the facilitation team must try to control. Furthermore, it is important to remind the group that it is just a game and that the participants must be careful not to get hurt.

