

Dictogloss

Level: all levels depending on text chosen

Classroom Dictation activity where learners listen to a text, usually a short one, and then reconstruct it. It is a multiple skills activity. Students practice listening, writing and speaking, and use grammar and lexis to complete the task.

Steps:

1. Choose a text that is interesting or amusing to your students and that suits their level. This text could be teacher-generated or teacher can choose a passage from a text. Beginners – 3 to 4 sentences; intermediate – 6 to 8 sentences; advanced – 8 to 12 sentences.
2. Introduce the topic, language focus and the key vocabulary
3. Dictation – read the text at a speed a little bit slower than native speaker speed. Read the text again at native speed and on the second reading students individually make very brief notes on main ideas.
Remember the purpose is to get the main ideas, not every word exactly as it appears in the text, therefore do not read too slowly.
4. Reconstruction – students work in pairs or small groups to share what they remember, compare notes and write a shared version of the text. Students work on editing for accurate punctuation, spelling and inclusion of the main ideas. Remind students to concentrate on communication of the message and good grammar.
5. Analysis and correction – students compare reconstructions with other groups and with the original. Discuss the differences. T elicits sentences and records them on the board to focus on form.

Taken from www.authenticteachingwordpress.com