HOW TO ENGLISH
With Gav & Em
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How to Use Dictogloss in an English Lesson

S06E04 | For teachers to adapt to their learners

Teaching focus

In a dictogloss, learners hear a short text, note key information and work together to reconstruct its meaning. We can use the resulting versions to examine listening, grammar and vocabulary choices.

Our suggested routine

1. Choose a short, accessible account and clarify essential vocabulary.
2. Explain that learners will reconstruct the meaning, not every word.
3. Read for the main event, then allow notes and another reading as needed.
4. Let pairs combine notes and mark uncertain details.
5. Compare the events, their order and any added assumptions.
6. Discuss a few useful language choices without demanding identical wording.
7. Give learners time to revise and explain one improvement.

After the attempt

What could learners do? What needed another model or a smaller step? Choose one useful adjustment and try the task again.

Notes for our next lesson

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Read the full teaching article and listen to the episode at howtoenglishpod.com