1 Prove it!

Type of activity

whole class information search

Function practised

asking for and giving personal information

Exponent

What's your name? How old are you?

Have you got . . .?

What do you do?

Do you like . . .?

Do you . . .?

Which . . . do you like best?

Where do you live?

Have you (ever) . . .?

How many brothers and sisters have you got?

Lexical areas

names, occupations, hobbies, sports, food and drink

Problem vocabulary

names of sports, musical instruments, fruit flavours

How to use the game

Photocopy the sheet of statements so that there is one for each student.

Give out one sheet to each student.

The object of the game is to prove or disprove the statements on the sheet. To do this, the students must move around the class asking suitable questions until they have obtained enough information to prove or disprove the statements. Students may need a little initial help in making up the questions.

If time is short, simply use fewer statements, or give each student one statement each to prove or disprove.

The game may easily be adapted to provide practice in particular structures or functions, and sample statement sheets are provided to show how this may be done with, for example, the present perfect, *used to*, likes and dislikes, habits and opinions.

Prove or disprove these theories:

Most people in the class have more than one forename.

The average age of the class is 24.

Most people play a sport: the most popular sport is football.

Most people do not have a bicycle or a car.

People prefer cats to dogs.

Most people watch television every night.

Most people come from cities; most people would prefer to live in the country.

Most people have more than one brother or sister.

Most people like strawberry-flavoured ice-cream.

Most people play a musical instrument.

Most people have visited at least one other foreign country.

There is no one in the class who has been to more than ten countries.

Everyone has read War and Peace.

At least half the class has seen The Sound of Music.

Most people enjoy going to school or work.

Only one person has been to France.

No one in the class has ever broken their leg.

Most people have been in hospital.

More than three people have eaten snails.

Someone in the class has kissed an Englishman.

There is someone in the class who has never smoked.

No one here has ever written a letter to a newspaper.

There is someone in the class who has driven a lorry.

There is someone who has never swum in the sea.

Most people have ridden a horse at sometime in their lives.

Most people in the class used to bite their nails, but don't any more.

There are at least three people who used to smoke, but who have now given up.

Most people have more money now than they used to.

There is someone in the class who used to get up very late.

Several people in the class used to eat too many sweets.

Everybody used to have a teddy bear.

No one likes horror films.

Everyone enjoys dancing.

Most women hate ironing.

Most men like beer.

There is someone in the class who doesn't mind doing the washing-up.

Most people prefer tea to coffee.

There is someone in the class who always gets up early.

There is someone in the class who always does exercises before breakfast.

No one walks to school or work.

Most people smoke more than ten cigarettes a day.

Most people go dancing quite often.

More than three people play a musical instrument.

More men than women read a newspaper every day.

Most people watch TV more than three times a week.

Most people think that:

Modern art is rubbish.

Men and women should have an equal part in child care.

Tobacco should be banned.

Women should be paid for housework.

Space research is a waste of money.

There is too much violence on television.

People should be limited to two children per family.

People should pay less attention to technological progress and more attention to ecological problems.