

Dialogue Activities

Exploring spoken interaction
in the language class

Nick Bilbrough

**Cambridge
Handbooks
for Language
Teachers**

Series Editor
Scott Thornbury

Contents

Thanks and acknowledgements	ix
Introduction	i
1 Understanding	18
1.1 Understanding dialogues: a basic procedure	18
1.2 Board grab	21
1.3 Reading versus listening	23
1.4 Dialogue interpretation worksheets	24
1.5 Jigsaw	26
1.6 <i>Designing exam questions</i>	27
1.7 What are they talking about?	28
1.8 Snippets	29
1.9 Fairy tale tableaux	30
1.10 Lame jokes	31
1.11 Working with interviews	32
1.12 Dialogue as a way into a graded reader	35
1.13 The bit I like . . .	37
2 Analysing	39
2.1 Tricky words	40
2.2 Closed mouth minimal pairs	40
2.3 Fishermen	42
2.4 Stage directions	45
2.5 Authentic versus scripted dialogues	47
2.6 Dialogue scan race	49
2.7 Filling in	53
2.8 Speech acts	55
2.9 The teacher does the speaking test	56
2.10 Student dialogue reformulation	57
2.11 Backchannelling	61

3 Reproducing and reconstructing	62
3.1 Jumbled lines	63
3.2 Dialogue rebuilding	65
3.3 The ultimate gapfill	68
3.4 Listen again	70
3.5 Jumbled reconstruction	71
3.6 Dialogue pairs	73
3.7 Dialogue retranslation	76
3.8 Retranslated tapescript	77
3.9 Dubbing	78
3.10 From monologue to dialogue	79
3.11 Turning news items into dialogue	81
3.12 Shadow dialogues	82
3.13 Mimed dialogues	84
3.14 Modernised voiceovers	86
3.15 Roughing up and censoring	89
4 Memorising	91
4.1 Who said what?	92
4.2 Reduced dialogues	93
4.3 Story to dialogue	95
4.4 Adjacency pair turnover cards	97
4.5 Remembering the questions	99
4.6 Dialogue halves	101
4.7 Line by line	103
4.8 Prompts	104
5 Rehearsing and performing	107
5.1 Chanted dialogue	108
5.2 Sounding like a gringo!	110
5.3 It's not what you say . . .	112
5.4 Students perform the listening material	114
5.5 Improvising into a scene	115
5.6 Shadowing actors	117
5.7 Dialogues with movement	118
5.8 Who's next?	119
5.9 Conducted dialogue	121

5.10	Performance to writing	124
5.11	Reader's theatre	126
5.12	Direct speech	128
5.13	No way José	130
5.14	Let's have a drink	132
6	Co-constructing	134
6.1	By name and by nature	135
6.2	Half a conversation	137
6.3	Dialogue building	140
6.4	Community language learning	143
6.5	Writing dialogue articles	145
6.6	Famous last words	147
6.7	Dialogue into song	148
6.8	Conversational involvement	151
7	Creating and personalising	155
7.1	What did we have to say?	156
7.2	The words I'd like to own	157
7.3	Dice dialogues	158
7.4	Speech bubbles	159
7.5	Picture dialogues	160
7.6	Dark secret scenes	161
7.7	Soundtracks	163
7.8	Conscience alley	164
7.9	From depiction to dialogue	166
7.10	Semi-planned roleplay	167
7.11	The room talks back	168
7.12	Into the future	169
8	Communicating	170
8.1	Venn diagrams	171
8.2	Speed dating	172
8.3	Gibberish scenes	174
8.4	Dialogue warm-ups	175
8.5	The status game	176
8.6	Cline debates	177

Contents

8.7	Gossip	178
8.8	Paper talk	180
8.9	Multi-speak dialogues	181
8.10	ABC dialogues	182
8.11	Odds versus evens	184
8.12	The yes/no game	185
8.13	Robinson Crusoe Island	185
8.14	Who's lying?	187
8.15	Interclass calls	189
8.16	Celebrity ball	192
8.17	Boring short stories	194
8.18	Read, turn and talk	195
9	Dialogue as learning	196
9.1	The closed question restaurant	197
9.2	Building a life	199
9.3	The dating agency	200
9.4	Talk and chalk	202
9.5	Never-ending dialogue	204
9.6	Would you give your teacher a job?	206
9.7	The tourists are coming	208
9.8	Dialogic text building	210
9.9	Cooperative storymaking	212
9.10	Teacher in role	213
9.11	Interrupting the tapescript	216
9.12	Dialogue versus internet	217
9.13	Difficult dialogues	220
Dialogue Bank A:	From the film <i>Mulholland Drive</i>	222
Dialogue Bank B:	Authentic snippets	226
Dialogue Bank C:	Snippets from fairy tales	230
Dialogue Bank D:	Lame jokes	232
Dialogue Bank E:	Situational dialogues	234
Dialogue Bank F:	'Dating Agency' from the comedy series <i>Little Britain</i>	237
	Further reading and resources	239
	Index	241