

School Daze (scrambled paragraphs)



Level:



Objectives:



Timing



Prep/

Materials:

Beginner—Intermediate, can be adapted for higher levels

The student will be able to practice reading skills and crafting coherent messages or paragraphs.

5-15 minutes, can be expanded further into a various levels of difficulty

- Prepare pre-teaching material to discuss the history, purpose, events, results, specific cultural perspectives, etc. of the local school system
- Print out a long newspaper or magazine article and then cut it into sections with one paragraph per section. You may also do this in an electronic format and list the paragraphs as separate and in a random order.
- Remember, this activity can take on any theme, for example: things to do in your city in the fall or unique fall holidays celebrated in your country

* Before the activity begins, be sure to pre-teach new thematic vocabulary or any necessary grammatical targets.



Breakdown:

1. Give the student one section of paper at a time (or for virtual lessons, reveal one paragraph at a time) and ask them to read it out loud. Check for pronunciation correctness as well as general understanding.
2. Once the student has read through each section, ask them to assemble the paragraphs into a coherent, consistent series.
3. Discuss. Did their understanding of the paragraphs change once it was in a specific context? Does the meaning of the entire article change if the paragraphs are arranged differently? How does context add to understanding?