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Sentence Transformation

STUDENT'S WORKSHEET

		Correct	Incorrect
1	I regret not learning more foreign languages when I was younger.		
	I wish I learnt more foreign languages when I was younger.		
2	I'm not used to getting up at the crack of dawn.		
	I'm not in the habit of getting up very early.		
3	My grandfather used to tell lots of jokes.		
	My grandfather would tell jokes all the time.		
4	They say that the police caught the culprit last night.		
	The police are said to caught the culprit last night.		
5	No matter how hard I worked, I could not make ends meet.		
	Hard though I worked, I could not earn more money.		
6	They are building a new supermarket in my neighbourhood.		
	A new supermarket is built in the area where I live.		
7	I had no idea that this service would cost so much money.		
	Little I realised that I'd have to pay so much for this service.		
8	My sister takes after our father.		
	My sister is similar to our father.		
9	I've never been to England before.		
	This is the first time I have been to England.		
10	Why don't we go to the cinema tonight?		
	Why not to go to the cinema tonight?		

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Sentence Transformation

TEACHER'S NOTES

Level: extended Matura

Aim: practise sentence transformation, encourage accuracy

- 1 As a warm-up, prepare 4–5 sentences which you think your students will be able to paraphrase in more than one way; e.g. 'I'm not into sport.' ('Sport isn't my cup of tea', 'I'm not too keen on sport', etc.). Make sure that your choice of sentences covers grammatical and lexical paraphrases. Divide the students into pairs and ask them to paraphrase each sentence in as many ways as possible. The students score one point for each correct answer. The pair with the most points wins.
- 2 Ask the students to work in pairs (you may want to ask them to work with a different partner) and give each pair a copy of the worksheet. Ask the pairs to read the original sentences and their paraphrased versions and decide whether the paraphrasing is correct.
- 3 Ask the students to write their answers in the relevant columns, putting ✓ if the paraphrase is correct, and ✗ if the paraphrase is incorrect.
- 4 When all the students have finished, ask them to exchange their worksheets and mark each other's answers so that one pair marks another pair's answers. The pair with the most correct answers wins. After the students have added up the points and the winners have been decided, they return the worksheets to their owners, who then correct the incorrect paraphrases.
- 5 When they have finished, you may want to ask each pair to come up with yet another paraphrase of the sentences on their worksheets.

KEY:

- 1 incorrect (I wish I had learnt)
- 2 correct
- 3 correct
- 4 incorrect (to have caught)
- 5 correct
- 6 incorrect (is being built)
- 7 incorrect (Little did I realize..)
- 8 correct
- 9 correct
- 10 incorrect (why not go...)