### Games and simulations for learning

**WebQuest Description**: Games that promote learning and/or training.

**Grade Level**: 6-8

**Curriculum**: English / Language Arts

**Keywords**: Spelling, words, tense, definitions, sentence

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**Introduction**

“A simulation is a model of a real-world system” (Clark and Mayer, 2011, p. 374). With most games, the rules are more significant than the components. Sometimes, there are games where these roles are reversed, and the components are significant and the rules not very important at all. The components are the hardware, the rules are the software. Both define the game, and. Both can exist independently from each other, but separately are not a game. Games are rule-based, they are responsive, which allows the learner to have control, and they challenge the learner’s abilities. There are several benefits that simulations and games can offer to a learning experience. Learners in a simulation are able to learn through performing an action in order to receive a particular outcome. In regular training interventions, and in the overall intervention to which the simulation belongs, we are guided by the outcomes. Although games can create effective learning environments, not every game is effective or educational. Effective games should include rubrics and evaluation strategies in order to develop and educational component. How games are used is equally important. Games should motivate learners, promote critical thinking skills, and contain strategies that help the learner move forward and increase knowledge of the material. Simulations and games can motivate learners. Games encourage learners to be actively involved, they are self-paced and provide feedback, and they are cost effective for learning environments, which reflects a Just-in Time (JIT) approach.

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**Tasks**

You will be able to identify the appropriate vocabulary word to fit each sentence. You will be able to spell the word correctly and use it correctly. You will be able to match the appropriate definition with the relating word. You will be able to identify ACTION words.

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**Process**

You will match vocabulary words with the correctly spelled word. You will identify the misspelled word and correct the spelling. You will identify use the correct word in the given sentence. You will match the vocabulary word with the correct definition. You will use the correct verb tense. You will identify “action” words.

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**Evaluation**

You will be able to identify the proper tense from the list of relating words. You will be able to use each word properly in a sentence. You will be able to match the definition with the proper word. You will be able to spell each word properly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category and Score</th>
<th>Distinguished</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>Sub-Standard</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student knows the correct word tense and is able to use it correctly in a sentence.</td>
<td>Student can easily identify and provide examples of correct word tense and uses it correctly in a sentence.</td>
<td>Student can identify word tense, does not use it in a sentence.</td>
<td>Student knows the tense, but cannot use it appropriately in a sentence.</td>
<td>Student cannot identify the tense or use the proper tense of the relevant word in a sentence.</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student can identify the correct definition with the relevant word.</td>
<td>Student can easily identify the correct definition with the relevant word and use it in a sentence.</td>
<td>Student can identify the relevant word, but cannot easily match it with the definition to form a sentence.</td>
<td>Student can identify the relevant word. Student does not use it properly in a sentence.</td>
<td>Student does not identify the relevant word and cannot use it properly in a sentence.</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student will be able to identify, spell, and use the proper word in a sentence.</td>
<td>Student will be able to identify, spell, and use the proper word in a sentence.</td>
<td>Student will be able to identify and spell the relevant word, but does not use it in a full sentence.</td>
<td>Student will be able to identify and use the relevant word in a sentence, but cannot spell it correctly.</td>
<td>Student cannot identify, and spell the relevant word, and cannot use it properly in a sentence.</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion

'We come to the close of this lesson. If you'd like to pursue it more on your own check these resources out: Purdue Online Writing Lab, https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/1/5/ Time for Writing, http://www.time4writing.com/writing-mechanics/ Doing this will help each of you become a self-directed lifelong learner. Thank you for sharing this learning experience!'

Teacher Page

Students will learn the proper tense of words, their definitions, how they are spelled, and how they are used correctly in a sentence. This Webquest should take only an hour.

Standards
Teachers should remember to give the students the words first, remove them, and let the students write them again using the correct spelling.

Credits
I appreciate the various sites on the Internet that provide grammar help, grammar games, and videos.

Digital Chalkboard Grammar Blast

Grammar images Googleimages.com

FunBrain http://www.funbrain.com/words.html

Purdue Online Writing Lab, https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/1/5/

YouTube Videos https://www.youtube.com/

Reference

Other

A necessary part of an educator’s work is measuring learning. Technology-enabled assessments can help reduce time and resources. Assessments that are delivered using technology can provide a comprehensive picture of student needs, abilities, and interests, which will allow educators the opportunity to personalize learning. Educators will be able to see evidence of student thinking and provide real-time feedback through learning dashboards, and technology-enabled tools will also support evaluation and coaching for teachers. All educators should be mindful about what they are measuring and what is most valuable to measure.