

How often ...? – Teacher's notes

Level: Beginner (equivalent to CEF level A1)

Aim: To review and practice asking and answering *How often ... ?* questions with time expressions.

Preparation: Make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Procedure:

1. Students answer the questions in exercise 1 in pairs. It should be done in a quiz style, so you can add extra rounds to this exercise if you like.

Note: Creating questions more specific to your group will personalise the activity more and thus boost interest and motivation.

2. Ask the pairs of students to compare their answers with another pair. The pair with the most correct answers is the winner.

Answers:

- a) the football World Cup – every 4 years
 - b) there is a full moon - every 29.5 days. Accept 29 or 30 as correct
 - c) February 29th – every 4 years
 - d) The Academy Awards (The Oscars) in Hollywood – every year
 - e) is there a lotto draw in Ireland – twice a week
 - f) the world's airlines lose 1,500 bags – every 30 minutes (25million in 2009)
 - g) you live in the EU and you need a new passport – every 10 years
 - h) Big Ben's bells ring – every hour
 - i) a plane lands or takes off in Atlanta (the world's busiest airport) – every 30 seconds with a total of 1,000,000 per year
 - j) hair grows 5 centimetres - roughly every 2 months
3. In exercise 2 students interview you, the teacher, and try to guess the correct answers before you give them the answer.
 4. Each pair of students thinks of five questions and should then share questions with another pair so that the four students will have 10 questions to guess the answers.
 5. When all of the pairs have written down guesses to their questions, each pair asks you one of their questions.
 6. For every answer they guess correctly they get one point. The pair with the most points at the end is the winner. This student-led activity will also allow your students to get to know you more.

Note: As there will be lots of questions for you, you should answer as quickly as possible and focus on giving answers with time expressions.

Option: If your class is very big, you could alter this last activity so that the pairs ask each other the questions and guess the answers about each other. This will make sure everyone is getting speaking practice simultaneously.