Exercise 3.0  Topic of conversation – key topic and word clues

Speaker Copy

This exercise consists of sentences that are common to one topic but not directly related to a given situation.

Instructions for the Speaker
1. Explain to the listener that the task is to use the topic clue to help them repeat the sentence.
2. Present the topic with visual cues, or let the listener read the topic clue.
3. Present the sentence slowly with normal intonation but without visual cues, and ask the listener to repeat it.
4. Encourage the listener to use strategies to confirm or clarify the sentence, such as:
   - 'Repeat.'
   - 'Did you say .....?'
   - 'Are you talking about .....?'
   - 'Can you say it a different way?'
5. Confirm any words correctly repeated after each presentation.
6. If, after three presentations, the sentence was not understood, provide a key word from the sentence. (Examples are underlined in the exercises.)
7. If the listener cannot recognize the clue words, the following are examples of prompts that may provide additional clues (these relate to clue topic C):
   - 'It's not a blue color, it's red.'
   - 'In winter, you need a thick pair of socks.'
   - 'Don't take it away, bring it to me.'
   - 'You put gloves on your hands in the winter.'
   - 'Shoes are worn on your feet.'
   - 'It's not a shirt, it's a jacket.'
   - 'You wear clothes on your body.'
   - 'When you have clothes on, you are wearing them.'
   - 'The opposite of earliest is latest.'
   - 'Looking through the shops is called shopping.'
   - 'Women wear skirts or dresses.'
   - 'A sash around your neck is a scarf.'
   - 'People wear clothes.'
8. Allow the listener to listen to the sentence three times in the auditory-only condition before adding visual cues.
9. If visual presentation is required, always provide an opportunity for the listener to hear the sentence again without visual cues.
Clue topic A: Television
1. What are you watching?
2. Turn on the news.
3. I’m sick of all these commercials.
4. There’s a good movie on tonight.
5. I like watching sports on TV.
6. Who was the leading actor in that movie?
7. Do you have a video recorder?
8. Turn off the TV before you go to bed.
9. I stayed up late to watch a movie.

Clue topic B: Books
1. Have you read any good books lately?
2. I’ve nearly finished reading it.
3. Who was the author of that book?
4. I always buy paperbacks.
5. I am reading a novel at the moment.
6. I can’t remember that story.

Clue topic C: Clothing
1. Where is my red shirt?
2. I bought a new pair of socks yesterday.
3. It's very cold so bring a jacket.
4. I took off my hat and gloves.
5. I have some new shoes.
6. There is a hole in my jacket because it's so old.
7. I like old clothes.
8. Did you see what she was wearing?
9. Have you seen the latest fashion?
10. I'm going shopping to buy some jeans.
11. Do you think my shoes match my dress?
12. I bought some wool to knit a scarf.
13. What are you wearing to the party?