

What is it?

Aims

Practice describing and identifying inventions.

Language focus

Grammar

The passive

Set-up

Pair work

Lesson link

For use after Unit 7, Lesson C

Time

20 minutes

Preparation

Duplicate one Student A worksheet and one Student B worksheet for each pair.

- As students are working, walk around to monitor the activity and help as needed. Make sure that students are reading the descriptions aloud and not showing them to their partners. If some have difficulty understanding their partner, encourage the reader to read the description again more slowly. Help with the pronunciation of difficult words.
- When students have finished, go over the correct matches with the whole class.

Answer Key

Student A

frisbee – 4
band-aid – 3
sandwich – 2
basketball – 1
earmuffs – 5
bifocals – 6

Student B

airbag – 2
umbrellas – 1
wheelchair – 6
sneakers – 4
bar code – 5
blue jeans – 3

Procedure

- Tell students they are going to work in pairs to read descriptions of different inventions and match them to pictures.
- Put students in pairs. Give each student in the pair a Student A or Student B worksheet. Tell students not to show their worksheet to their partners. Give students a minute or two to read the descriptions and answer any questions about vocabulary.
- Model the activity by having a Student A read the first description on the worksheet aloud. Then ask a Student B to guess the answer by looking at the pictures on the Student B worksheet (*umbrellas*). Have Students B write the number 1 in the box with the picture of the umbrellas.
- Have pairs continue the activity taking turns reading the descriptions aloud and matching the products to their partner's descriptions. When they have finished, they should look at each other's worksheets and check their answers.

What is it?

Student A Descriptions

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>1</p> <p>These were invented over 4,000 years ago. There are pictures of them from ancient Egypt, Greece, and China. The first store for these opened in London in 1830. They protect people from sun and rain.</p> | <p>2</p> <p>These were first put into cars by the Ford Motor Company in 1973. They are used to protect people in the car when there is an accident.</p> |
| <p>3</p> <p>These were invented in 1853 when thousands of men were looking for gold in California. Levi Strauss was selling material to make tents. One man said, "We need pants!" So Strauss used the tent material to make these.</p> | <p>4</p> <p>These were first produced and marketed in 1917 under the name Keds. They were made partly of rubber. People who wear them can walk very quietly. That's how they got their name.</p> |
| <p>5</p> <p>In 1948, the owner of a supermarket asked for something to read product information when customers were buying it. In response, this was invented by a student named Bernard Silver and a friend.</p> | <p>6</p> <p>No one is sure who first invented this product, but the first known model was made in 1595 for Phillip II of Spain. Phillip didn't have a problem with walking. He was just very lazy!</p> |

Inventions

| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  <p>frisbee™</p> |  <p>band-aid™</p> |  <p>sandwich</p> |
|  <p>basketball</p> |  <p>earmuffs</p> |  <p>bifocals</p> |

What is it?

Student B Inventions

| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  <p>airbag</p> |  <p>umbrellas</p> |  <p>wheelchair</p> |
|  <p>sneakers</p> |  <p>bar code</p> |  <p>blue jeans</p> |

Descriptions

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>1</p> <p>This popular game was invented in 1891 by a Canadian physical education teacher. Players ran up and down a court and threw balls into peach baskets on either end of the court.</p> | <p>2</p> <p>This was invented by John Montagu in the eighteenth century. Montague loved to eat beef between slices of bread. This way, he could eat with one hand and use the other hand to play cards.</p> |
| <p>3</p> <p>This product was invented by Earle Dickson in 1921 because his wife often cut her fingers while preparing food.</p> | <p>4</p> <p>This product was invented in the nineteenth century as a result of college students' love of pie. After eating a pie, they liked to throw the pie pan to each other. The "pie pan" is now plastic and a fun sport to play outside.</p> |
| <p>5</p> <p>Chester Greenwood was ice-skating in 1873 and his ears got cold. This product was invented after Greenwood asked his grandmother to put animal hair on two ear-shaped pieces of wire.</p> | <p>6</p> <p>This product was invented by Benjamin Franklin, probably around 1784. Franklin had a problem with his glasses. He could see things that were far away, but he couldn't see to read. He invented these so he could do both.</p> |