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## Game Review: Truth or Dare for English Language Learners by Leze Djokaj

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Leze Djokaj agreed to review “Truth or Dare for English Language Learners,” a game created by Brian Grover, a language teaching professional and materials designer living in Vancouver, British Columbia. For more information about the game see:

<http://www.speekeezy.ca>

“Truth or Dare for English Language Learners” is a game that inspires real communication. This game, used with adults, gives them the time to shine. A sense of familiarity is spoken through words with ELLs. The learner is constantly being loaded with spontaneous responses. The elements of this game give the players a chance to share cooperative learning with each other and build confidence with their target language. This game gives the players a chance to be confident and active learners. The group I played this with could not have felt more satisfied during and after the game, and every time we played, the excitement was greater than the first! It was very engaging and reinforcing. As a current teacher with ELL students in my classroom, I know games provide highly motivating tasks to learn concepts. They are engaging, challenging, and at the same time, very motivating to the learner. “Truth or Dare for ELLs” gave my group a chance to lower their anxiety level while speaking their 2nd, 3rd, or 4th language in front of others. This game provides meaningful English practice and targets all different learning styles of the learner. I would recommend this game to Adult ESL teachers and anyone with ELL students.

This game was played at home with friends and was passed to colleagues of mine that have Adult ELLs in their daily lives; here is what some of them said:

“The games generated a routine and in a couple of days you were able to notice the fluency of the speakers.”

“This game was so much fun! I enjoyed it and so did my friends!”

“Learning a foreign language needs games like this to reinforce spoken language skills.”

“This game gave my cousins a chance to not be overwhelmed with learning the language; they were relaxed, stress free, and enjoyed the game, while not knowing they were supplementing their language learning.”

“Adult ESL teachers, BUY this game!”

Leze Djokaj is a Kindergarten Teacher for Birmingham Public Schools; her classroom consists of 4 ELL students. She works with ELL students at the college level that are mastering their target language and preparing for their TOEFL exam. Her first language is Albanian and learned English simultaneously. Leze is a graduate TESOL student at Madonna University.