

ESL Lesson Plan: Giving and following commands

Level: Beginner (A1/A2)

Time: 45–60 minutes

Topic: Basic commands (imperatives)

Objective: Students will be able to understand and respond to simple classroom or daily life commands.

1. Warm-Up (5–10 minutes)

Activity: Simon Says

- Teacher gives commands like "Touch your nose," "Stand up," "Sit down."
- Students do the action only if you say "Simon says..."
- Great way to introduce commands in a fun, physical way.

2. Vocabulary Introduction (10 minutes)

Target Vocabulary (examples):

- Sit down
- Stand up
- Open your book
- Close the door
- Come here
- Be quiet
- Write your name
- Listen to me

Method:

- Use classroom objects or gestures to demonstrate each command.
- Repeat each command and have students mimic both the words and action.

3. Practice (10–15 minutes)

Activity 1: Repeat After Me

- Students repeat the commands after the teacher.

Activity 2: Match the Command to Picture

- Give students worksheets with pictures of actions.
- Match the commands to the right pictures.

Activity 3: Command Chain

- One student gives a command to another ("Stand up"), then that student gives a different command to someone else, and so on.

4. Controlled Speaking Practice (10–15 minutes)

Pair Work:

- In pairs, one student gives commands, and the other follows.
- Switch roles after a few minutes.

Optional Game:

- "Teacher Says": Like *Simon Says*, but students take turns being "the teacher."

5. Wrap-Up & Homework (5 minutes)

Review:

- Ask students to recall 3 commands they learned.
- Quick round of "What's this command?" with gestures.

Homework:

- Write or draw 5 commands they remember.
- Bonus: Practice giving them at home with a friend or family member.