I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER!
– aka “The Lying Game”

In this game, you can lie or tell the truth. Your classmates have to guess if you are lying, or telling the truth.

Here’s how to play the game:

1. Answer this question: “What did you do last summer?”
2. Tell a lie, or tell the truth. If you tell the truth, you have to continue to tell the truth!
3. Answer questions from your classmates.
4. Let your classmates guess if it is a lie or the truth.
5. Tell your partners if it is a lie or the truth.

Your teacher’s answer to question 1 is this: “_______________________________”

Make questions about your teacher’s answer:

When…

Where…

Who…

Why…

What…

How long…

How much…

SAMPLE DIALOGUE

Look at this dialogue from a game of “I know what you did last summer!” Complete the gaps with an appropriate word.

A: What did you do last summer t__________?
B: I went to Spain
A: D__________ you?
B: Yep, I s__________ did.
A: Ok, when did you go there e__________?
B: It was at the beginning of summer I think… Well, the end of May to be h__________.
B: So, it wasn’t really the summer, w__________ it?
A: Well, I think it was. Doesn’t the end of May count as summer? I think it d__________, doesn’t it?
B: Ok, well, next question, w__________s in Spain did you go?
A: I went to a place on the coast. Benidorm.
B: Really? Ok. What was it l__________ then?
A: Well, it’s a bit of a tourist trap to be f__________. There are loads of English tourists there, which isn’t very nice, but I didn’t really go there for the beach.
B: D__________ you? So, why did you go there then?
A: For the rock climbing.
B: Rock climbing? I didn’t know you c__________ a rock climber! How long have you r__________ c__________ that?
A: Oh, a few years off and on. Probably about 5 years in t__________.
B: Five years? I never knew that a__________ you. How come you’ve never said anything about that before.
A: I dunno. Maybe you weren’t listening or something. Well, you learn something new every day, d__________ you. I only do it occasionally these days actually.
B: So, who did you go with? You didn’t go alone, d__________ you?
A: No, I went with some friends as a m__________ of fact. A couple of friends who I go climbing with.
B: A couple of friends. A__________ then, what are their names?
A: Erm… …Matt and …Aaron.
B: Hmm, why did you p__________ before you answered that?
A: I d__________, d__________ I?

B: Yes, you did actually. There was quite a long gap before you answered. It’s like you had to think about it.

A: It was a year ago, and my memory isn’t very good, t__________ all!

B: R__________. Your memory isn’t good. Sure. Ok, next question then. Where did you stay?

A: Erm… in a place. Just a place… just s__________ accommodation.

B: What kind of accommodation, s__________y?

A: It was a, k__________ of, climbing hostel, where climbers stay.

B: A climbing hostel. I’ve never h__________ o__________ one of those…

A: No, you w__________ have, w__________ you. You’re not a climber.

B: Fair e__________. Ok, how many people were staying at the hostel?

A: How many people? I can’t really remember. It was a while a__________ now, so…

B: You can’t remember? D__________ you meet any people at the hostel?

A: Well, yes there were a few people. Actually, I think we only met about 3 people. A married couple, and a guy on his own.

B: Only 3 people in the whole hostel? I don’t b__________ you!

A: Come on! It was a small hostel. I’m t__________ the truth. Look into my eyes and tell me I’m lying…

Do you think A is lying or telling the truth?
Here’s the complete dialogue. Practise reading the dialogue with your partner. Focus on your intonation to make it sound natural.

A: What did you do last summer then?
B: I went to Spain.
A: Did you?
B: Yep, I sure did.
A: Ok, when did you go there exactly?
B: It was at the beginning of summer I think… Well, the end of May to be honest.
B: So, it wasn’t really the summer, was it.
A: Well, I think it was, yeah. Doesn’t the end of May count as summer? I think it does, doesn’t it?
B: Ok, well, next question, whereabouts in Spain did you go?
A: I went to a place on the coast. Benidorm.
B: Really? Ok. What was it like then?
A: Well, it’s a bit of a tourist trap to be fair. There are loads of English tourists there, which isn’t very nice, but I didn’t really go there for the beach.
B: Did you? So, why did you go there then?
A: For the rock climbing.
B: Rock climbing? I didn’t know you were a rock climber! How long have you been doing that then?
A: Oh, a few years off and on. Probably about 5 years in total.
B: Five years? I never knew that about you. How come you’ve never said anything about that before.
A: I dunno. Maybe you weren’t listening or something. Well, you learn something new every day, don’t you. I only do it occasionally these days actually.
B: So, who did you go with? You didn’t go alone, did you?
A: No, I went with some friends as a matter of fact. A couple of friends who I go climbing with.
B: A couple of friends. Alright then, what are their names?
A: Erm… …Matt and …Aaron.
B: Hmm, why did you pause before you answered that?
A: I didn’t, did I?
B: Yes, you did actually. There was quite a long gap before you answered. It’s like you had to think about it.

A: It was a year ago, and my memory isn’t very good, that’s all!

B: Right. Your memory isn’t good. Sure. Ok, next question then. Where did you stay?

A: Erm… in a place. Just a place… just some accommodation.

B: What kind of accommodation, specifically?

A: It was a, kind of, climbing hostel, where climbers stay.

B: A climbing hostel. I’ve never heard of one of those…

A: No, you wouldn’t have, would you. You’re not a climber.

B: Fair enough. Ok, how many people were staying at the hostel?

A: How many people? I can’t really remember. It was a while ago now, so…

B: You can’t remember? Didn’t you meet any people at the hostel?

A: Well, yes there were a few people. Actually, I think we only met about 3 people. A married couple, and a guy on his own.

B: Only 3 people in the whole hostel? I don’t believe you!

A: Come on! It was a small hostel. I’m telling the truth. Look into my eyes and tell me I’m lying…
USEFUL LANGUAGE

Try to use expressions like these to make your conversations sound more natural.

What did you do then? (then is not a time expression here)

Did you? Really? (This can sound suspicious, or friendly – depending on the situation and the intonation)

Yep, I sure did. (sure is used to emphasise that you definitely did it, especially when someone is sceptical of you – you could also say “I certainly did”)

When did you go exactly? / When exactly did you go? (use exactly to get more specific info)

It was at the end of May to be honest (this is very common, even when people don’t normally lie a lot – it’s a bit like saying actually)

It wasn’t really the summer, was it. (downward intonation means you think it wasn’t the summer, upward intonation means you’re not sure)

Whereabouts in Spain did you go? (this means where exactly)

What was it like? (a very common question – the answer is: it was nice, it was hot, it was cheap, etc)

It’s a bit of a tourist trap to be fair. (a bit is very common and it means slightly – use a bit of a + noun, e.g. It was a bit of a nightmare. To be fair is like to be honest and is used to give a balanced view of something)

I think it does, doesn’t it? (auxiliary verbs are used instead of repeating the whole clause – tag questions are a really good way of persuading someone to agree with you)

How come you’ve never said anything about that before? (an informal expression for why)

I only do it occasionally actually. (a very common expression – sounds natural – means as a matter of fact. It does not mean currently – watch out for false friends!)

You didn’t go alone, did you? (negative statement with a positive tag Q and upward intonation = expression of surprise or disbelief)

I went with a couple of friends as a matter of fact. (means actually)

Alright then, what are their names? (this is like saying, ok so…)

I didn’t, did I?

Yes, you did actually. (more auxiliary verbs – see above)

Right. Your memory isn’t good. Sure. (right and sure can be ways of showing you believe someone – but can be used to sound sarcastic, like you don’t believe someone)

It was, kind of, a climbing hostel. (a common expression which people use when they’re struggling to describe something)

Well, you wouldn’t have, would you. (More auxiliary verbs. The complete sentence would be: You wouldn’t have heard of a climbing hostel, would you. – downward intonation because this is not really a question)

Fair enough. (this means I think what you said is reasonable)

I don’t believe you.

I'm telling the truth.

Come on! (This is used to express disbelief or injustice)