ELL STRATEGY: Manipulative Sentence Construction

The Learning Benefits:

Students activate mental processes and deepen their understanding of sentence formation by manipulating sentence parts and structure. This strategy is especially helpful for ELLs struggling with word order. It works well with both physical and virtual representations of sentence parts.

Implementation Use Case:

*Scrambled Sentences* is a kinesthetic learning game in Speak Agent where students rebuild a story that has been disordered by pesky gremlins. Each story applies key academic concepts in a context that ties into the classroom curriculum.

Students manipulate virtual puzzle pieces, each containing one word, and move them into the right position in each sentence. The game provides instant corrective feedback, but allows unlimited experimentation. Once the first sentence is complete, the player continues to build back the story one sentence at a time. There is a progress marker at each step that shows the story building back and which shows how many sentences remain.

Distance Learning Tips

- Speak Agent scores each game of *Scrambled Sentences* based on the number of puzzle moves.
- Teachers may view these scores in their online lesson reports.

Favorite Teacher Feature

*Scrambled Sentences* provides ELLs with an extra learning support: They may listen to each sentence narrated as a hint for solving the puzzle.

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