

# Do as I say

## Learning objective

Giving orders and commands

## Preparation

Play a game involving giving instructions, orders and commands, such as *Simon says*. Invite the pupils to take turns to be the leader. Encourage them to understand that an order or command requests a response that may be verbal or physical. Suggest that, if the sentence would make sense with the words *You must* at the beginning, it is probably an order or a command, or at least an instruction.

## Activity

Divide the pupils into two equal groups. Invite members of the first group to perform actions (or inactions) of their choice, simultaneously. One may hop, one may skip, one may crawl, one may freeze, etc. Ask each member of the second group to go to one member of the first group and order them to stop. For example:

*Stop hopping!*

*No skipping here!*

*You must not jump any more!*

*Stop crawling at once!*

Now ask the second group to stand in spaces and invite each member of the first group to give a command for one of them to follow. For example:

*Come over here to me!*

*Go to the other side of the room!*

*Sit down and be very quiet!*

*Balance on one leg for ten seconds!*

Suggest that they may include some commands that require verbal responses, such as:

*Tell me your name!*

*Count to twenty!*

*Sing a song!*

*Tell me a joke!*

## Extension/challenge

Invite the pupils to form groups of three and play a game to compare statements, questions and commands. Ask each group to choose a sentence and adapt it to be a question, a command and a statement, then deliver it as a short role-play sequence, with actions and expressions.

A typical script might be:

Father: *Are you going to bed?*

Child: *No, not yet.*

Mother: *Go to bed now!*

Child: *I'm going to bed!*

Try repeating the sequences using very polite speech, to show that good manners can turn both statements and commands into questions, but that they must still be obeyed.

An example of this might be:

Teacher: *Would you all sit down over here?*

Children: *May we sit on the carpet, please?*

Teacher: *Could you please look this way?*

Children: *Do we need to look at the board, Miss?*

Teacher: *Will you please stop talking and listen now?*