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Watch your Words

**Focus:** Balancing fluency and accuracy

**Materials needed:** None



Use the QR code to find out more and see more cards in the NILE A-Z training activity series!

## Aims

- To help teachers appreciate the demands of fluency activities on low-level learners
- To lead into discussion about fluency and accuracy

## Procedure

1. Give the teachers an easy topic to discuss, such as comparing their last holiday, or describing their family. Put them in pairs to discuss but before they start tell them there is one rule. When they are speaking they cannot use any words that are spelt with a double letter. Check understanding by asking questions such as 'Can you say *school* (no, it contains double o), can you say *educational institution* (yes, there are no double letters). Give them 1-2 minutes to do the task.
2. Ask them:
  - to rate themselves (using the CEFR if appropriate) in that activity on both accuracy (not using double-letter words) and fluency
  - how they felt when they were trying to express themselves
  - what it tells us about low-level learners doing fluency tasks (tasks can be very demanding when students don't have access to words they need; teachers should not expect simultaneous accuracy and fluency)
  - how teachers can help (scaffolding tasks, giving preparation time, etc.)



PART OF THE INTO GROUP

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