How many are there? (shapes)

Language focus

Vocabulary revision, asking for quantities, answering questions

Proposed MI focus

Visual

Level

First year of learning English upwards

Time

10 to 15 minutes

Preparation

Create a worksheet: select words for objects that can easily be drawn. In a frame, draw various numbers of each of these objects, outlines only, in different sizes, overlapping each other. Alternatively, use the one on shapes below and make one photocopy per learner.

In class

- 1 Pre-teach any necessary vocabulary (for the example below words for shapes).
- 2 Hand out a copy of the worksheet to each student and ask them to put it face down on their desks.
- 3 Tell them that you are going to give them 15 seconds. They should carefully look at the drawings so that they will be able to answer questions about it later.
- 4 After 15 seconds, ask them to turn the worksheet over again.
- 5 Ask them for the number of objects in the drawings, e.g. *How many circles are there?* Write the students' answers on the board. Tell them to turn the worksheet over and check.
- 6 Carry on in the same way asking for the other shapes in the picture.

Variations

Depending on the level of your class, other structures to be used with the same activity/worksheet could be:

I think there are ...(circles). Do you think there are more (circles) than (triangles)? - Yes, I do/No, I don't. I think there are as many/more/fewer ... than I'm not sure if there are as many/more/fewer ... than

Example: <all the drawings should overlap, no background and foreground>

