Binary Piano

Introduction

- **Level:** A2
- **Skills:** Reading
- **Topics:** Present Continuous

The enigma

- **Keywords**

This enigma consists of a text which the students will read and correct by choosing the appropriate tense. The sequence of numbers they will find in binary code will lead them to a music note which they will need to find in the room and lift to get the next clue in a QR code.

- **Toolbox**

Smartphone

Printed piano keyboard

Printed binary alphabet

A pen and piece of paper to take notes

- **Description of the enigma**

The players find a text with both the present simple and present continuous options for each sentence. They have to choose the correct tense knowing that Present Simple = 0 and Present Continuous = 1. The binary code alphabet, such as the one found at this link: http://sticksandstones.kstrom.com/appen.html, will be displayed somewhere in the room.

TEXT:

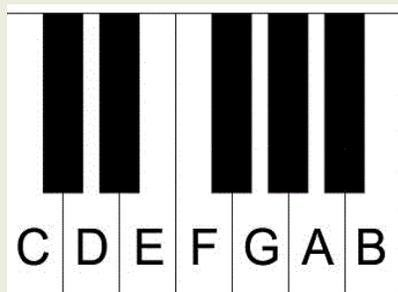> 0 = Present Simple, 1 = Present Continuous
>
> Brenda **is/is being** 44 years old. Right now, she **takes/is taking** a walk with her dog. She **enjoys/is enjoying** their daily walks in the woods. Her husband **likes/is liking** to stay at home on weekends. He always **spends/is spending** his Sunday afternoon reading. Their son, Hector, **is not/is not being** very good in school, so he **studies/is studying** English in his room today. In the meantime, his sister Linda **plays/is playing** tennis with her best friend.

Solution:

C = 01000011

Step 2:

The players will need to find the music note C in the room, which will be presented on a printed piano keyboard such as this one:

✓ Source: http://www.piano-keyboard-guide.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/printable-piano-keyboard.gif

The keys of the piano will be cut so that players can lift them up. There will be a QR code under each key so they need to complete the enigma to know which one to scan. Underneath the C key, players will find the QR code with the next clue of the game. You can create a QR code using this online generator: https://www.barcodesinc.com/generator/qr/

Hints

If the players don't understand the task, tell them to look at the instruction on top of the text.

If players don't know what to do with the sequence of numbers, tell them to search for help around the room.

If they don't know that C is a music note, it will be written on the piano keyboard, so you could direct them towards it.

More information

Possible restrictions

Linking numbers to a letter might be confusing for some students with Specific Learning Disorders. Make sure they understand how to translate the binary code into one single letter.

References

✓ http://www.piano-keyboard-guide.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/printable-piano-keyboard.gif

✓ https://www.barcodesinc.com/generator/qr/

✓ http://sticksandstones.kstrom.com/appen.html