

# Compensatory Strategies Role-Play Cards + Rubric

This pack provides role-play cards and a quick rubric to help ESL/EFL teachers train students in using Compensatory Strategies (circumlocution, approximation, and word-coinage) in speaking tasks.

## Part A: Role-Play Cards (20 Scenarios)

1. At the pharmacy: Ask for aspirin without using the word 'aspirin'.
2. At the restaurant: Order a spoon without saying 'spoon'.
3. At the airport: Explain you lost your passport without saying 'passport'.
4. At the bookstore: Ask for a dictionary without using 'dictionary'.
5. At the supermarket: Ask where the eggs are, without saying 'eggs'.
6. At school: Explain you forgot your homework without using 'homework'.
7. In the kitchen: Ask for a frying pan without using 'pan'.
8. At the doctor: Say you have a sore throat without the word 'throat'.
9. On the street: Ask for directions to the bank without using 'bank'.
10. At the cinema: Ask for a ticket without using 'ticket'.
11. At the hotel: Ask for a towel without the word 'towel'.
12. In the office: Borrow a pen without saying 'pen'.
13. At the bus station: Ask about the bus schedule without 'bus'.
14. At the park: Describe a playground without saying 'playground'.
15. In the living room: Ask to turn on the TV without saying 'TV'.
16. At the post office: Ask for a stamp without 'stamp'.
17. At the train station: Ask for the platform number without 'platform'.
18. On the phone: Ask the person to repeat without 'repeat'.
19. In the kitchen: Ask for salt without 'salt'.
20. At the sports shop: Ask for a football without saying 'football'.

## Part B: Quick Assessment Rubric

Teachers can use this rubric to quickly evaluate students' use of compensatory strategies during role-plays.

### Fluency

- Excellent: Speaks smoothly with no long pauses
- Good: Minor pauses but message continues
- Needs Work: Frequent pauses; message breaks down

### Coherence

- Excellent: Description clear and logical
- Good: Generally clear with minor issues
- Needs Work: Hard to understand; message confusing

### Support

- Excellent: Gives enough detail to help listener guess
- Good: Some detail but limited support
- Needs Work: Very little detail; listener cannot guess

Scoring: Total = 9 points. A score of 7+ indicates effective use of compensatory strategies.