



# TOOTHPICK AND OTHER PUZZLES

## Teacher's Guide

5 different puzzles using toothpicks, coins, glasses or paper clips that can stump you. (Solutions are in the video.)



### TeachersReact: 5 Bets you will Always Win

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xg37L5z5r\\_M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xg37L5z5r_M)

#### Possible vocabulary to pre-teach:

tricks puzzles brain teasers toothpicks to stump somebody  
That doesn't count What if.... Give me a hint You're so close

### TEACHING SUGGESTION



Set up the activity / activities in any way you feel which would suit your and your students' needs and interests. The following is one idea that you could pursue if it appeals to you. (NOTE: Be careful of what vocabulary to pre-teach if you ask students to make predictions.)



There are 5 tricks. Do any one or more. Divide students into small groups and give each group what is needed (coins, matchsticks, water cups or paper clips). Play video until recommended end, let students try to work it out, elicit answers and play the solution on the video if necessary.

0:48 –0:54 (2:02)	Answer: 2:35	<b>4 TOOTHPICKS</b>
2:40 –2:53 (3:42)	Answer: 4:07	<b>9 COINS</b>
4:11 –4:17 (5:13)	Answer: 5:37	<b>11 MATCHSTICKS</b>
5:45 –6:03 (6:40)	Answer: 7:17	<b>6 GLASSES</b>
7:25 –7:30 (8:19)	Answer: 8:47	<b>PAPER CLIPS</b>

NOTE concerning times:  
0:48-0:54 = instructions  
0:54- (2:02) = watching others try it

### POSSIBLE DISCUSSION THEMES:



- Which puzzles did you find easier? Do you find them challenging or boring?
- Is there a certain kind of person who likes or is good at puzzles?
- What does it mean 'to think out of the box'? Is this something that can be learned? If so, how?
- What's the difference between being clever and intelligent?



### A DEEPER LOOK *(optional for more background or a follow-up)*

Here are 5 easy bar magic tricks

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rmVz9dsMWNU>



Check Max's English Corner for more videos and ideas. In about two weeks or so there will be a new Cool Clip.

