

## **C. LISTENING SKILLS**

*Skills practiced:* hearing the difference between sounds (necessary in reading), concentration, creativity.

### **C7 Who do you hear?**

*Needed:* nothing.

*Activity:*

1. Choose two students to make the sounds of two different animals. The sounds should differ only a little bit. For example, in Dutch this might be a duck and a frog (“whaa” and “waap waap”). In American English, these might be a sheep and a chicken (“baa” and “baak, bak, baak”).
2. These two stand in front of the group with their backs to the group. When student “A” makes his animal sound, those listening raise their right hand. When student “B” makes her animal sound, those listening raise their left hand.
3. After a while let other students take a turn at making other sounds. The fun is in making weird sounds. Make sure you laugh a lot together.
4. Point out the differences in the sounds, too, or ask students to describe the differences in the two sounds.
5. On the board or big sheet of paper you might write the letter that the different sound represents (maybe the “p” sound in the Dutch example or the “k” sound in the English example).
6. Make other sounds: big dog *waf*, little dog *wuf*; cat *rrrring*, lion *rrroar*; bee *bzzzz*, cricket *biz biz biz*, etc.
7. Repeat with different students and different sounds.

