is an interactive learning event with a realistic setting and the necessary background information

 offers the opportunity of *learning* by doing; presents a task to perform or a problem to solve together

 allows the learners to make choices, shows the consequences of those choices and builds confidence in the learners when the problem is mastered

 is more than a role-play because the learners act as themselves and use their own judgements and linguistic resources

 reduces anxiety about linguistic performance because learners are not judged, corrected or evaluated

 is highly motivating because language is learned creatively and communicatively

 can help develop cognitive abilities such as analysing, evaluating and synthesising information

 provides the opportunity to aquire intercultural and interpersonal competence such as being a team-player and cooperate



 come in all shapes, sizes and levels of complexity and can be designed to match the individual circumstances of a particular group

(Excerpt from: Paula Christopher, Ken Hyland)