### ESL / EFL RESOURCES

**Activity Type**
Writing and spelling activity, group work

**Language Focus**
Vocabulary revision
Lexical sets

**Aim**
To brainstorm categories of words.

**Preparation**
None

**Level**
Any

**Time**
20 minutes

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### Introduction

This ESL game is ideal for brainstorming new vocabulary or revising categories of words.

### Procedure

1. **Draw two to four columns on the board.**
2. **Divide the students into a corresponding number of teams.**
3. **Have each team line up in front of a column and give each team a marker or chalk for writing.**
4. **Set a time limit (e.g. five minutes) and then call out a category for the students to brainstorm.**
   - The teams' task is to write all the words they can think of belonging to that category in the column.
5. **The first student in each team runs to the board, writes a word from the category in the column, runs back, gives the marker or chalk to the next student and goes to the back of the line.**
6. **Then, the second student runs to the board and so on.**
7. **When the time limit has been reached, stop the game and check the words and spelling for each team.**
   - For each correctly spelt word belonging to the category, teams score one point.
8. **Several rounds can be played with a different category being called out each time.**
9. **The team with the highest score at the end of the game wins.**
10. **To stop teams copying each other, you can cross out all the words that are duplicated across the teams.**