

Activity Type

Reading and matching activity, group work

Language Focus

Categories of words

Aim

To identify words from a category.

Preparation

Create ten categories with three words in each category.

Level

Any

Time

20 minutes

Introduction

This competitive ESL game helps students to identify words from categories.

Procedure

Cover the board with the words from the ten categories. There should be three words for each category. Only write the words and not the categories on the board and make sure the words are all mixed up.

Next, divide the class into two teams.

Have each team line up at the back of the room. Make sure that the students have a clear runway to the board.

Give the first student in each team a marker or chalk.

Call out a category, e.g. verbs.

The students at the front of each line race each other to the board and circle one of the words in that category, e.g. read.

The first student to correctly circle a word scores a point for their team.

Continue with the next two students and so on.

Keep on calling out categories and awarding points until all the words have been circled.

The team with the most points at the end of the game wins.