

Activity Type

Reading, writing, listening and speaking activity, pairwork

Language Focus

Adjectives

Word association

Aim

To associate words with adjectives and compare your answers with a partner.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Level

Pre-intermediate

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

In this insightful worksheet activity, students associate words with adjectives and compare their answers with a partner.

Procedure

Begin the activity by writing the word 'white' on the board.

Ask the students: What do you think of when you think of something white?

Write the students' ideas on the board.

Explain that the students are going to complete a worksheet where they associate words with adjectives in the same way.

Give each student a copy of the worksheet and go through the meaning of each adjective.

Tell the students not to show their worksheet to anyone.

Working alone, the students then complete the 'I think of...' column with something they associate with each adjective.

When the students have completed the column, divide them into pairs.

Students then ask their partner the questions from the worksheet and write down their answers in the last column.

Afterwards, the students compare their answers with their partner and see if they both thought of the same things or not.

When the students have finished, ask them how many associations they have in common with their partner. Also, find out the adjectives where most students thought of the same thing and ask the students to speculate why.

As an extension, students choose five of the adjectives from the worksheet and write as many things they associate with them as possible. Each list of items is then read aloud to the class and they try to guess the adjective.

A. What do you think of when you think of the following adjectives? Write your answers in the 'I think of...' column.

What do you think of when you think of something...	I think of...	My partner thinks of...
cheap?		
delicious?		
healthy?		
exciting?		
scary?		
cold?		
wooden?		
enormous?		
Italian?		
ancient?		
modern?		
heavy?		
tiny?		
bitter?		
enjoyable?		
narrow?		
adventurous?		
sad?		
loud?		
English?		
hot?		
beautiful?		

B. Now, ask a partner the questions from the worksheet and write down his or her answers in the last column. How many of your answers are the same?