

Activity Type

Vocabulary Game:
identifying, betting

Focus

Abstract nouns

Aim

To recognise abstract nouns in sentences.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this abstract nouns activity, students identify abstract nouns in sentences and place bets, depending on how confident they are about their answers.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the worksheet.

Working alone, students read the sentences on the worksheet and decide which of the words in the sentences are abstract nouns.

When a student identifies an abstract noun in a sentence, they underline it. Sentences may contain no abstract nouns or up to four.

Afterwards, students bet on their answers, depending on how confident they feel about their decisions.

Students bet between 10 and 100 points on each sentence and write their bet in the 'bet' column.

Next, elicit the correct answers from the students.

Students must identify all the abstract nouns in the sentence to win the bet.

If a student guessed correctly, they transfer the amount written in the 'bet' column to the 'win' column.

If they guessed incorrectly, they transfer the amount to the 'lose' column.

Finally, students add up the amount won and lost to give a grand total.

The student with the most points is the winner.

Answer key

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. career | 11. membership |
| 2. no abstract nouns | 12. time, hunger |
| 3. jealousy | 13. weather |
| 4. love, happiness | 14. no abstract nouns |
| 5. relationship, trust, honesty | 15. responsibility, education |
| 6. memory, appetite | 16. no abstract nouns |
| 7. bravery | 17. creativity, talent |
| 8. no abstract nouns | 18. anger |
| 9. no abstract nouns | 19. behaviour, stress |
| 10. death | 20. regret, life, health, youth |

Sentences	Bet	Win	Lose
1. I started my medical career as a nurse in a psychiatric hospital.			
2. The noise was so loud that I slept with a pillow on my head.			
3. I couldn't control my jealousy when I saw Joe flirting with Zoe.			
4. Some people say money can't buy love or happiness, but I disagree.			
5. A good relationship is based on trust and honesty.			
6. Even though he's 97, his memory and appetite are still very good.			
7. The fireman received a medal for his bravery during the tornado.			
8. I take sugar in my coffee to get rid of the bitterness.			
9. The smell of her perfume was so strong that I started to cough.			
10. It took the lawyer ages to get over his wife's death.			
11. I would join the gym if membership wasn't so expensive.			
12. I hadn't had time to eat and was weak with hunger.			
13. If the weather was better, we could go to the beach.			
14. There was a stain on the carpet where I'd spilt red wine.			
15. It's a parent's responsibility to look after their child's education.			
16. I knew she'd had a cigarette because her breath smelt of smoke.			
17. His creativity and talent are genetic. He gets them from his mother.			
18. You need to control your anger, especially in front of the kids.			
19. Please forgive John's behaviour. He's under a lot of stress at the moment.			
20. My biggest regret in life is not taking better care of my health in my youth.			
	Total =		
	Grand total =		