

Activity Type

Matching activity, group work

Focus

Word opposites

Aim

To memorize and match pairs of words.

Preparation

A completed word grid containing matching word pairs.

Level

Any

Time

20 minutes

Introduction

This fun matching words game can be used when you want to review words that match in some way, e.g. adjective opposites, verb opposites, prepositions, past and present verbs, etc.

Procedure

Draw a six-by-four grid on the board and number the squares 1 to 24. You can make a bigger or smaller grid, depending on how many pairs of words you have to match.

Divide the students into two teams.

Explain that behind each square is a word. The aim of the game is to match the squares by remembering where each word is. Tell the students that they cannot write anything down.

The first team selects two squares, e.g. 2 and 16.

You look at your word grid and write the two corresponding words in the selected squares.

If the two words match, the team scores a point and has another turn.

If the words don't match, erase them. It's then the other team's turn to select two squares and so on.

The game continues until all the word pairs have been matched correctly.

The team with the most points at the end of the game is the winner.

Example grid:

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24