

Activity Type

Speaking activity, group work

Focus

Categories of words

Aim

To say category words beginning with a certain letter.

Preparation

A list of categories

Level

Any

Time

15 minutes

Introduction

Here is a fast-paced category game for students of all ages.

Procedure

Draw the following table on the board:

	Team A	Team B	Team C	Team D
E	X	X	X	X
H				
R				
W				
T				
A				
L				
C				
S				
FINISH				

You can add more teams or letters, or change the letters if need be.

Divide the students into four teams.

All teams start on the top row, e.g. E. As the game progresses, mark each team's latest position on the board with an X.

To move down to the next row, teams must say a word from a category beginning with the letter on the row they are on, e.g. E.

Choose a category at random each time and give teams a set amount of time to answer, e.g. five seconds.

Call out a category for Team A. If Team A says a word for that category beginning with the letter within the set time frame, they move down to the next row, e.g. H.

If the team cannot think of a word, they stay on the same row until their next turn when they are given another random category.

Team B is then given a category and so on.

The first team to reach the finish wins the game. If two teams reach the finish on the same round, play tiebreaker rounds until there is one winning team.