

## Words you know

### Teacher's notes

**Level:** Elementary

**Aim:** Students play a word brainstorming game to see how much English they already know.

**Vocabulary:** Internationally known English words for food, drinks, computers and travel and sports

**Note:** This activity is particularly good for those students who begin an Elementary class saying 'I know NO English'. This activity is to raise students' confidence that they probably do know in fact several words in English.

**Preparation:**

Copy and cut out the cards on the worksheet, one card for every two students.

**Procedure:**

- 1 Put the students into pairs. Give each pair a card and tell them not to show the card to any of the other pairs. Ask them to brainstorm as many words as they can for their chosen category. They should write these words on the back of the card. Give them a two-minute time limit (be strict).
- 2 After the two minutes, tell the pairs to stop and put their cards aside. Ask them to take a new piece of paper. Write SPORTS on the board and ask every pair to write on a separate piece of paper ONE word connected to sports. However, the pair that had this category in stage 1 should not write anything.
- 3 Ask the pairs to read out their words (from stage 2) and write them on the board.
- 4 The pair with the original Sports words now reads out the words they wrote in stage 1. They get 1 point for every word they have which is not on the board (i.e. which the other students did NOT write in stage 2).
- 5 Repeat stages 2 to 4 with the other categories (food, drinks, computer words, verbs, travel and transportation). The pair with the most points at the end of the game wins.