



Quiz Sheet

Wonderful Words and Colourful Careers



Questions

1. What is a word?

Ask pupils to come up with a definition. The dictionary definition is as follows:

» Noun. A unit of language, consisting of one or more spoken sounds or their written representation, that functions as a carrier of meaning. Words are usually separated by spaces in writing, and are distinguished phonologically, as by accent, in many languages.

2. How many words do you think there are in the English Language?

According to the Second Edition of the Oxford English Dictionary, there are 171, 476 words currently in use and 47,156 obsolete words.

3. How many words does the average person know?

Between 20,000-40,000 according to different studies.

4. How can you learn new words?

Emphasize the idea that words are all around you; listening and learning in class, speaking to new people, reading, music, on the back of a cereal box, putting subtitles on whilst watching the television etc.

5. Can you give an example of how one word might be positive to one person but not necessarily to another person?

An example is sunshine or the idea of competition- one person might enjoy being in the sun whereas another person could be allergic to it and some people enjoy the prospect of competition whilst others can have a strong fear of failure.

6. What words would you use to describe yourself positively to another person?

Answers to focus on qualities, skills, talents, strengths, characteristics or attributes.

