

Lesson plans


A2 Flyers Reading & Writing Part 1 – Teacher’s Notes

Description

This activity practises the ways in which we define words. Students practise matching definitions to key vocabulary before doing a sample task from the test.

Time required: ⌚ 30–40 minutes.

Materials required:

- Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers, A2 Flyers Sample Papers can be downloaded from the website 

<http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/exams/young-learners-english/flyers/preparation/2018-update/>

Aims:

- to introduce students to Part 1 of the A2 Flyers Reading & Writing paper
- to give students practice in writing definitions and reading them in order to guess the key word.

Procedure

1. Introduce the activity

- Write the word *vegetables* on the board.
- Ask the students to tell you what the word means and write suggestions up next to the word.

For example:

you eat them / you can cook them / they are often green / carrots are an example of a vegetable

- Get as many suggestions as possible.

2. Useful language

- On one side of the board, write some different sentence stems that may be useful for describing objects, e.g.:
 - *You can with this/these*
 - *It's/They're made of*
 - *It's/They're often/very (+ adjective)*
 - *They're like / They look like*

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➤ *You find this in/at*

3. Brainstorming

- Repeat Step 1 with the words *knife*, *football* and *jeans*. (See the Answer Key on page 4 for possible answers.)

4. Guessing the word from definitions

- Now ask students to guess what you are describing. Give clues one at a time and let them think about the meaning. (Write these on the board, to help students with Step 5 of the lesson.)
- Ask them to guess once you have given all of the following clues:
 - *It's a sport*
 - *It's nice to do on a hot day*
 - *You do it in water*
 - *You can do it in a pool or in the sea.*

Answer – Swimming.

5. Writing definitions and guessing more words

- Ask students to work in pairs.
- Each pair chooses a word that everyone knows. They can look through their course books to find a word that has been learnt by the class, or refer to the word lists in the *YLE Handbook*.
- They have to write 3–4 clues to the meaning of the word onto a piece of paper. They must not write the answer.
- Monitor and check that the clues are clear and correct in meaning, and help with any problems.
- Allocate a number to each pair. They write this number on their paper with the clues.
- Pin the papers on the classroom walls or pass them around. Students work in their pairs, read the clues, write the number from the piece of paper in their exercise book and next to it write what they think the word is.
- When they have all finished, check the answers. Allow the students who wrote the clues to say whether their classmates were correct or not. If there was any confusion where words have a similar meaning, focus on those words and clarify the meanings for the students (e.g. *snow / ice*, *bookcase / shelf*).

6. Sample Task

- Hand out copies of the **Sample Task** to each student (A2 Flyers Reading & Writing Part 1, which you downloaded) and explain that this is the format of the activity in the test. Ask the following questions:
 - a) *How many questions are there? (10, plus one example)*
 - b) *What do you have to do? (choose the correct words and write them on the lines – remind students to always read the instructions at the top of the page)*
 - c) *How many words are there? (15, so 5 of them won't be used)*
 - d) *How are these test questions different from the game you've just played? (the words and the definitions are both given – they don't need to guess what they think the word is)*
- Remind students to copy the words **clearly**, making sure they are **easy to read** (they should print their letters, not write in joined-up writing, which can be difficult for examiners to read), and the **spelling must be correct**. They should copy the words exactly as they are given on the page, e.g. **a fridge** (not *fridges*), **an apartment** (not *apartment*), **cupboards** (not *a cupboard*).
- Do the activity as a class.
- ⌚ Set them a time limit of **5** minutes. Explain that in the test they will have to make sure they don't spend too long on any one part of the test, as no-one will tell them when to go on to the next part. (You can, however, reassure students that they will be told when they have 5 minutes left until the end of the test.) If they have time left over at the end, they can always go back and check their answers again.

Suggested follow-up activities

Crosswords are a great way to practise vocabulary and definitions. Many can be found in course books and supplementary materials.

- You can also play guessing games like the ones above at the start/end of each lesson with vocabulary recently learnt in class.

A2 Flyers Reading & Writing Part 1 – Answer Keys

Key to Procedure Step 3:

1. **Knife** – You can cut with this / You find this in the kitchen / You use it to eat food
2. **Football** – It's a sport / There are eleven people in a team / David Beckham plays it
3. **Jeans** – We wear them on our legs / They are often blue / They are like trousers

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Key to Sample Task

1. jam
2. baseball
3. postcards
4. a journalist
5. stamps
6. a pilot
7. magazines
8. hockey
9. sugar
10. golf

A2 Flyers Reading & Writing Part 1 – Sample Task

Original can be found in the A2 Flyers Reading & Writing Sample Paper, which can be downloaded from:

<http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/images/flyers-sample-papers-2018-vol1.pdf>

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Part 1

– 10 questions –

Look and read. Choose the correct words and write them on the lines. There is one example.

	<i>an astronaut</i>		
	<i>a pilot</i>	<i>golf</i>	<i>sugar</i>
	This person can fly to the moon in a rocket.		..... <i>an astronaut</i>
	1	This is made from fruit and you can put it on your bread with a knife.	.....
<i>basketball</i>	2	Players in this game throw, catch and hit the ball on a sports field.	..... <i>hockey</i>
	3	These have pictures on them and you can write on the back and send them to friends when you're on holiday.	.....
	4	It is this person's job to write about news in a newspaper.	.....
<i>salt</i>	5	You buy these and put them on your envelopes before you post them.	..... <i>magazines</i>
	6	This person flies a plane and usually wears a uniform.	.....
	7	People like reading these because they have stories with pictures or photos on their pages.	..... <i>baseball</i>
<i>jam</i>	8	You can play this game inside on ice or outside on a field.	.....
	9	Some people like this in their tea or coffee and they put it in with a spoon.	.....
<i>stamps</i>	10	People don't usually play this game in teams. They use a small, hard white ball.	..... <i>postcards</i>
	<i>a journalist</i>	<i>letters</i>	<i>a photographer</i>