



Access English Centre
Immigrant Centre Manitoba
Multi-level Warm-up Activity
Mystery Words
15 minutes



Objective/Goal:

Gives participants the opportunity to review vocabulary from previous topics or varied subjects

Materials:

Participants need:

- none

Facilitator needs:

- whiteboard and whiteboard markers
- prepared cards(index cards)
- timer

Procedure:

Before the activity:

- 1) **Think** of a word or phrase. It can be any word or phrase you have discussed in previous classes or any subject.
- 2) **Prepare** cards beforehand.
Depending on the English level of your conversation circle, **write** 10-20 words or idioms.

Activity Instructions:

- 3) Using the whiteboard markers, **write** short lines for each letter of the mystery word on the whiteboard.

Ex. : _ _ _ _ _ or

(Answer: MARCH)

_ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ , _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _

(Answer: APRIL FOOL'S DAY)

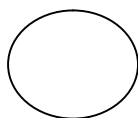
- 3) **Set** the timer for 15 minutes.
- 4) **Demonstrate**. This game is like "Hangman" but with an interesting twist. The

Mystery Words

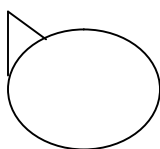
15 minutes

team that makes the most or last error will lose a the game when a "cat" is drawn.

- 5) **Gather** the participants together.
- 6) **Ask** the participants to guess the word or phrase.
- 7) Each person will **give** a letter in order to solve the mystery word or phrase.
- 8) **Divide** the whole group into 2 teams.
- 9) Each small group **will think** of name for their teams.
- 10) The facilitator will **choose** a number between #1-10
- 11) To decide which team goes first, each person will **guess** the number between #1-10.
- 12) Each person will **give** a letter to guess the missing words or phrase.
- 13) If the person **gives** a correct letter, the letter **is written** on the appropriate line. A point is **awarded** to the team.
- 14) If the person can **guess** the words or phrase correctly. The team **receives** a point, too.
- 15) But, if the person **gives** an incorrect letter one piece of the "CAT" is drawn on the whiteboard.
1st incorrect word= circle



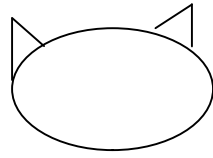
2nd incorrect word=left ear(triangle on the top on the left-hand side)



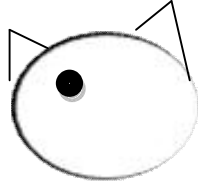
3rd incorrect word=right ear

Mystery Words

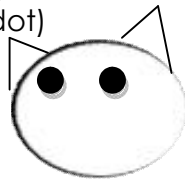
15 minutes



4th incorrect word= left eye (dark dot)



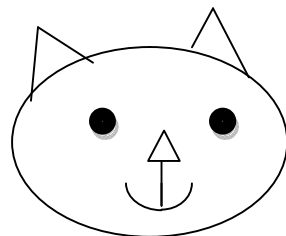
5th incorrect guess: letter/word=
right eye
(dark dot)



6th incorrect guess: letter/word=nose
(small upside triangle)



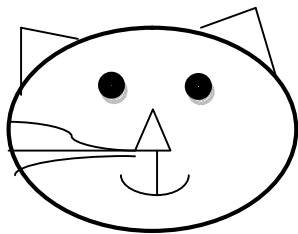
7th incorrect guess: letter/word=
mouth, draw a straight line from the nose, then draw a smile to complete
the mouth



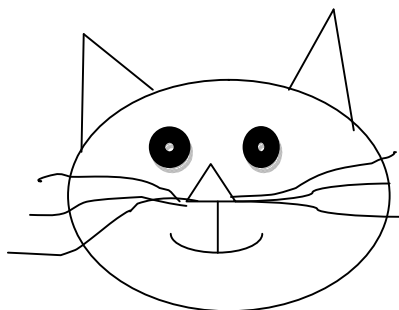
8th incorrect guess= letter/ word= left whiskers

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9th incorrect guess=letter/word= right whiskers



- 16) If the whole cat **is drawn** on the person's turn, the other team "WINS" and the losing team **loses** all its points.
- 17) The team which **guesses** the most words/phrases correctly wins.
- 18) **Write** the points for each team on the whiteboard.
- 19) **Draw** the lines for the next word or phrase on the whiteboard.

Example Questions:

For beginner levels, choose simple Words-one word or 2 words:

Do 10-15 words.

Ex. calendar months

Colours

Days of the Week

Weather: cloudy, rainy, etc.

Seasons

Food...etc.

For high beginners levels, choose grammar points:

Do 15-20 words.

Ex. Adjectives: beautiful, funny, etc.

Holidays

Verbs(Activities): running, cooking, etc.

For intermediate and advanced level, choose common phrases/idioms:



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Do 10 – 15 idioms
Ex. "smart as a whip"

Extension Activities:

* *Extension Activities are alternative or extra activities that can be done to supplement the main activity when there is extra time. They can also be done in the next class as a review of previous vocabulary or conversation.*

- A. The activity could also been done as a **Cool-Down activity**, as well.
- B. Instead of drawing a cat in place of Hangman's scaffold, you can draw a pig, dog, etc.