



Use of Slang: Slang words are allowed to be used as synonyms and antonyms.

Optional Expressive Language Practice: Each card word must be used appropriately in a sentence, and its synonym or antonym must be used appropriately in a sentence before a point can be awarded.

Classroom/Team Play: Divide the class into two teams. The teams should be facing each other. The teacher should act as mediator for the game. Have one student from each team selected as the team representative. The teacher keeps the deck of playing cards at the front of the room. He/she is responsible for the sandtimer; scorekeeping; and turning over, reading and showing the cards.

A team representative, with the help of teammates, earns the opportunity to state a synonym or antonym by shouting "My word!" The teacher determines which team will submit a synonym or antonym. When a team wins a word card, the teacher hands it to the team representative from the winning side. The teacher mediates the challenges by looking up the challenged words in the thesaurus. The teacher mediates the hand off for the Brain Freeze card and determines when the Brain Freeze Round should end. If none of the students can name a synonym or antonym for a vocabulary word, The teacher has the option of giving a definition of the word to the students to spur brainstorming.

Adapted Play Without Time Pressure: In Rounds 1 and 3, players take turns being first to try to name the synonym or antonym for each card shown. If the first player cannot name a synonym or antonym, the opponent then tries to name one to win the point.

Adapted Play With Non-Readers: A third party referee reads the card word aloud. The reader/judge looks up challenged words. In situations where only one of two players is a reader, use the Adapted Play Without Time

Pressure. One player reads each card aloud. The non-reader gets the first chance to name a synonym or antonym.

Play for Extra Practice Using Reference

Materials: Use this option when an elementary level student plays an older, highly educated person. The younger player holds the thesaurus. He or she tries to look up and read a word's synonym or antonym before the older player names one independently. During the Brain Freeze Round, only an elementary thesaurus may be used by the younger player. The younger player reads one word in the thesaurus entry for each Brain Freeze card hand-off.

Bilingual or Multilingual Play: Players agree on which languages will be used in the game. Synonyms and antonyms may come from any language agreed upon. Thesauruses and synonym/antonym dictionaries from the agreed upon languages are used for reference.

Other Teaching Topics

Parts of Speech: Discuss how two words that are synonyms or antonyms for each other must be the same part of speech. Explain that verbs must be in the same tense.

Mode of Speech: Discuss which synonyms and antonyms are appropriate for a formal audience and which are better for use with friends and family.

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