



Meets multiple
NCTE/IRA standards
see verbalvolley.com for
assessment information



Verbal Volley® Directions

Number of players: 2, or two teams.

Contents: 280 word cards, Brain Freeze card, Brain Freeze Thermometer, synonym/antonym card and 3-minute timer.

Legend:

- Marks words from the first 500 on Edward Fry's high-frequency word list.
- Marks words from the second 500 on Fry's list.
- ★ Marks words we recommend for 8-year-olds to start with.

Setup: Place the word cards face down between the two players/teams. Place the plastic sleeve on the top half of the Brain Freeze Thermometer so that it meets the 0 degree mark. Adjust the white column on the plastic sleeve to cover the white column on the Brain Freeze Thermometer. The red in the thermometer and the numbers should be uncovered. Place the timer, synonym/antonym card, Brain Freeze card, and Brain Freeze Thermometer where all players can see them. Players may use their own paper and pencil to record words used in the Brain Freeze Round, if necessary. Have your own or your classroom thesaurus handy for reference.

Object of the Game: Win the most word cards and get rid of the Brain Freeze card.

Playing Time:

Approximately 30 minutes for every 4 rounds.

Round 1

- Turn over the synonym/antonym card so that "synonym" is facing up.
- Start the 3-minute timer.
- Turn over the top word card.
- The first team/player to name a synonym takes the word card.
- Continue turning over cards and racing to name synonyms until the 3-minute timer stops.

Round 2 (Brain Freeze Round)

- One player turns over the top word card and leaves it showing for the entire round.
- The first team/player to name a synonym hands the Brain Freeze card to the opposing team/player.
- The team/player holding the Brain Freeze card must name a different synonym to hand the Brain Freeze card back.
- Teams continue naming new synonyms and handing off the Brain Freeze card.
- When no one can name a new synonym, one team will be left with the Brain Freeze card and the other team takes the word card.
- One player slides the Brain Freeze Thermometer cover down one degree to indicate the number of the Brain Freeze penalty points.

Round 3

Turn over the synonym/antonym card so that "antonym" is facing up.
Repeat Round 1 using antonyms.

Round 4

Repeat Round 2 using antonyms. Slide the Brain Freeze Thermometer cover down another degree.
Repeat all 4 rounds if desired.

Scoring:

Each team/player scores 1 point per card. The holder of the Brain Freeze card subtracts the amount shown on the Brain Freeze Thermometer. The highest score wins.

Challenges:

If players disagree on the correctness of a word choice, they may stop the timer and consult a thesaurus.

Unfamiliar Words:

If neither player knows a word, players read its thesaurus entry aloud and replace the word card slightly lower in the stack.

Additional Instructions On Back...