

## Activity Type

Vocabulary Game:  
forming words from  
prompts, spelling,  
guessing (group work)

## Focus

Collocations

## Aim

To guess words that  
make collocations.

## Preparation

A list of run-on  
collocations

## Level

Pre-intermediate (A2-B1)

## Time

20 minutes

## Introduction

This useful vocabulary game can be used to help students practice collocations.

## Procedure

Write the first and last word of your run-on collocations in a ladder on the board, leaving empty rungs for the words in between.

Example:

express-service-charge-take-away-go-home-stay-behind

express

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

behind

Explain that each word on the ladder makes a collocation with the word next to it and that the collocations can be read up or down.

Divide the class into two teams (A and B).

Team A chooses either the top or bottom rung of the ladder.

Write the first letter of the word on their chosen rung.

For example, if Team A chose the top rung, you add 's'.

Team A then tries to guess the word from the collocation.

If a team correctly guesses the word, they score one point and play again.

If Team A gets the word wrong, Team B chooses the top or bottom rung and another letter is added and so on.

Play several rounds using other run-on collocations.

The team with the most points at the end of the game wins.