

## Activity Type

Vocabulary Game:  
forming words (group  
work)

## Focus

Compound nouns

## Aim

To practice forming  
compound nouns.

## Preparation

Make one copy of  
the cards and cut as  
indicated.

## Level

Intermediate (B1)

## Time

30 minutes

## Introduction

In this fast-paced compound nouns game, students race to create as many compound nouns as they can from specified words.

## Procedure

Divide the students into teams of four or five.

Give each team a piece of paper and pen. Assign one student in each team to do the writing.

Tell the students that you are going to call out a word on a card and that their task is to write down as many compound nouns as they can using the word.

Explain that your card also contains three compound nouns using the word and that if the students write down the same compound nouns they score extra points.

As an example write the word 'hair' on the board and see how many compound nouns the students can create using the word, e.g. hairbrush, hairdresser, haircut, hairstyle, etc.

Next, begin the game by picking up a card and calling out the word in bold. Then, set a time limit, e.g. one minute.

In their teams, students then race to write down as many compound nouns as they can think of using the word.

When the time limit has been reached, teams stop writing and swap papers for marking.

For each suitable compound noun that is not on your card, teams score a point.

If a team has a compound noun that is on your card, they score two points.

This process continues until all the cards have been used.

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

Finally, review the meaning of each compound noun and elicit the compound elements for each one, e.g. noun + noun, preposition + noun, etc.

This game can also be played in groups with students playing individually and taking it in turns to pick up a card and call out a word.



<b>back</b>	ache pack up	<b>work</b>	shop place load	<b>up</b>	date stairs town
<b>home</b>	work sick owner	<b>fire</b>	place fighter wood	<b>air</b>	plane port mail
<b>life</b>	guard boat style	<b>ice</b>	berg box breaker	<b>sea</b>	food gull port
<b>sun</b>	set flower light	<b>out</b>	side law source	<b>snow</b>	man ball storm
<b>under</b>	ground dog statement	<b>eye</b>	brow ball sight	<b>door</b>	bell knob way
<b>water</b>	melon fall front	<b>head</b>	ache light quarters	<b>key</b>	board hole stone
<b>bed</b>	room spread rock	<b>motor</b>	bike way boat	<b>coffee</b>	shop bean break
<b>wine</b>	bottle glass bar	<b>dance</b>	music floor step	<b>face</b>	cream mask lift