

## Activity Type

Vocabulary Game:  
forming words from  
prompts (group work)

## Focus

Vocabulary revision

## Aim

To think of words  
beginning with certain  
letters.

## Preparation

A pack of playing cards

## Level

Any

## Time

20 minutes

## Introduction

This ESL vocabulary game is useful for practicing categories of words.

## Procedure

Tell the students that they are going to play a vocabulary game using a pack of playing cards.

Write the following on the board:

Ace. A, N	6. F, S	Jack. K, X
2. B, O	7. G, T	Queen. L, Y
3. C, P	8. H, U	King. M, Z
4. D, Q	9. I, V	
5. E, R	10. J, W	

Explain that each card represents two letters of the alphabet.

Divide the students into teams of three or four.

Choose a category, e.g. verbs.

Shuffle the cards and turn the top card over.

Show the card to the first team and set a time limit, e.g. five seconds.

The team then races to say a category word beginning with one of the letters the card represents.

For example, if the card is an ace, the students race to say a category word beginning with A or N.

If the team is able to come up with a suitable word before the time limit has been reached, they score a point.

The game is then repeated with the second team and so on.

The team with the highest score at the end of the game wins.