

## 4.5 Keyword Game

### Introduction

Keywords are an essential component of a differentiated lesson and are useful for revision and exam preparation. This activity encourages students to check their understanding of key terms and also provides students with a game which is very motivational.

### Resources

A set of cards (different colours can be effective) showing keywords with one word on each card. Laminated cards can be used repeatedly.

### Class set-up

1. Give each student cards that they cannot show to anyone else. *If there are not enough keywords in the unit, you can reuse some keywords or otherwise add relevant words from earlier units that could be reinforced.*
2. Allow students ten minutes to check the meaning of their keywords.
3. Divide your students into groups of five or six.
4. Students take turns to **describe** their keyword to the other members of their group until somebody guesses correctly what the word is.
5. A variation of this game allows students to **draw** pictures related to their keyword until somebody within their group guesses correctly what the word is.

### Rules

Students are well used to rules as part of games and they can create extra excitement and motivation. Rules can be adjusted to suit specific classes or just to provide variety.

**Rule 1:** The team must guess the keyword within a certain time limit (30 seconds).

**Rule 2:** The students describing or drawing the keyword cannot say the word. If they mention the word, that word is cancelled from the game and the team are penalised by cancelling points.

**Rule 3:** Keywords can carry a point score on them. Difficult key words are worth more points.