



Daft Dictionary

Daft Dictionary is a concept-combination practice which helps to develop associative thinking skills. Students create a bridge between two separate ideas by offering a quirky definition of the newly invented concept. The random nature and absurdity of these concept-combinations make this an approachable way to practice associative thinking in the classroom.

These two words combine to make an entirely new concept.

What is a Cello Hose?

You are the expert; share your wacky definition!

CELLO	HOSE	?
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Time: 10-15 Minutes

Materials: None

Group Structure: Whole class circle or small groups

This game works with 3 students at a time. We can call them A, B, and C.

A and B will each think of a word. It can be anything! After about ten seconds, when they are both ready, A will say their word aloud followed by B. The expert, C, will then define the newly invented concept as if they truly know what it is. So it will sound like Word + Word = Definition. Then the game travels clockwise around the circle so each student has an opportunity to say the first word, the second word, and offer a definition.

Directions

1. Form a large circle or circles of at least 4 students.
2. Facilitator chooses who is A, B, and C.
3. Facilitator gives A & B ten seconds to come up with a word.
4. A says their word aloud, followed by B.
5. C offers a definition aloud to the group as quickly and “expertly” as possible.
6. The person to the left of C is now A and the cycle continues...



Examples

ROBOT	HAIR	<i>Robot Hair is when someone rubs a balloon on your head and it stands straight up.</i>
TOWEL	DOG	A new breed of canine companion, especially popular among surfers and beachcombers, whose fur is terry cloth. Towel dog loves being patted!
MAGENTA	HOLLER	
JIGGLY	SKYSCRAPER	

Tips & Extensions

- Have students experiment with using a marketing approach when delivering their definitions (bandwagon, facts and statistics, emotional appeal, etc...)
- Use only nouns.
- Use content-relevant vocab words.
- Replace the two "source" words with two metaphor cards or other images to allow for even more interpretation.

▶ **WHICH CREATIVE RESOURCES ARE WE GROWING?**

Humor, curiosity, openness, improvisation, risk-taking...

▶ **WHAT KINDS OF THINKING DOES THIS ROUTINE ENCOURAGE?**

Associative thinking, divergent thinking...

▶ **WHERE CAN IT BE USED?**

Community-building, practice with speaking & listening, vocabulary...