

Word definitions task

This is a measure we used to assess the students' knowledge of the words covered in the programme. There is no need for pictures here. All you need to do is ask the students to define the target word, to tell you what the word is or means. As has been emphasised throughout this programme, word knowledge is not an all-or-nothing phenomenon. Therefore, students have the opportunity to gain a maximum score of 2 for a full definition of the word, or a score of 1 for a partial or more limited answer. You will find more details of the scoring system we used to follow. You can adapt the scoring system to suit your own purpose as long as you use the same scoring criteria across both pre and post intervention points. This is important since you are looking for changes in the students' performance on this measure.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

SCHOOL: _____ TESTER: _____

Instructions

'I'm going to say some words to you and I want you to tell me in your own words what they mean. I want you to tell me everything you can about each word. If you are not sure you know the word, just have a guess and see how you go.'

So, for example, if I gave you the word 'chair', what would you say '**chair**' means? Yes, good, you could have said, a chair is something that you sit on, a piece of furniture with four legs. Let's have a go.'

'Can you tell me what **[insert the word]** means?'

Word	Response	Score	
		Points 0/1/2	N/R
1 Employer			
2 Wage			
3 Documentary			
4 Larynx			
5 Nutritionist			
6 Reference			
7 Occupation			
8 Conservation			
9 Calorie			
10 Autobiography			
11 Organic			
12 Solar system			
13 Digestion			
Total			

Word definitions task score sheet

Word	Two points (To get full marks their answer must reflect at least one of the bullet points)	One point
1 Employer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must mention work or job and someone/organisation that you work for • A person or organisation that employs people • They employ you for work • Someone that gives someone a job and shows them what to do 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employs people • The boss • Someone that you work for • They employ you • Someone who employs you to do something • Uses word correctly in a sentence
2 Wage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A payment for work • Money you get for work • Must mention money/payment is from a job or work • An exact amount of money that you get from your manager 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money • When you're paid • How much money you get • Uses word correctly in a sentence <p>0 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wager • Money – when you put a bet on • When you pay bills
3 Documentary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A factual programme • Film or programme presenting facts/information about a particular subject • Definition by example, e.g., a programme about ... Must mention at least two different examples, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⌘ history ⌘ wildlife ⌘ real life ⌘ nature ⌘ science ⌘ animals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A programme • Uses word correctly in a sentence • Definition by example (see under 'two points') but only gives one example <p>0 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using two different definitions, defining paper document and documentary • Facts about something
4 Larynx	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part of the throat containing the vocal folds/cords • Voice box • Body part used for talking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throat • Adam's apple • Body part • Uses word correctly in a sentence

<p>5 Nutritionist</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A person who specialises/works in the science of/with nutrition • Someone who advises people about healthy eating/well-being • An expert on nutrition • Tells people what is good to eat • Someone who helps with your food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A dietician • They know about food • Someone's job, they help people • Uses word correctly in a sentence <p>0 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Something to do with nutrition • For your health
<p>6 Reference</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter of recommendation that you write for someone going for a job interview • A letter that you write about someone's character or abilities for a job interview • An academic citation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses word correctly in a sentence <p>0 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reference number • Reference book • When you refer to something
<p>7 Occupation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment or profession • Job 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples, dentist, doctor, teacher • Uses word correctly in a sentence <p>0 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When you're occupied • Something to do with a hospital
<p>8 Conservation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preservation of the environment and natural resources • Caring, looking after the world, environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment • Preservation • Uses word correctly in a sentence • Gives examples, such as 'recycling'
<p>9 Calorie</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A measure of food energy • A unit of heat • It is in food and you burn it when you exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In food • It's in food and you can put on weight • Each food item has a specific number of calories • Something you can work off that is in food • Uses word correctly in a sentence <p>0 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much fat is in something • It makes you put on weight • It's how much you weigh

10 Autobiography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biography/story of a person written by him/herself • A book that a person writes about his or her own life • A story of your life • A book about themselves (a book about yourself) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Story/book • A book that someone else has written for you (they get one point for knowing it's a book, even though they've mixed it up with biography) • Someone writes about their life (doesn't mention story/book) • Uses word correctly in a sentence <p>0 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Something about yourself • Someone writes about someone's life
11 Organic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of or relating to bodily organs • Relating to living organisms/things • Grown in a natural way without the use of fertilisers/pesticides/artificial chemicals • A product that does not have any chemicals or anything added 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pure, natural, healthy • Uses word correctly in a sentence <p>0 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic food • Organic milk
12 Solar system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sun and the planets/bodies that surround it (eight planets and their 60 moons/belts/comets) • If they mention planets + Sun they must also name one extra body, e.g., moon, asteroid, stars, comet, etc • If they just say planets they must also name two extra examples: see above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The planets • Gives two examples, e.g., Jupiter, Saturn • Uses word correctly in a sentence <p>0 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Space, in space, something to do with space, Earth • A planet
13 Digestion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The body takes what it needs to survive from the food we eat • The breaking down of food by the body • Must have the idea that it's a process or breaking down of food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses the word digestion or digest correctly in a sentence <p>0 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You digest things – not specific enough, must mention food • Eat and go to the toilet