Activities to Use with the Lists

THE LISTS IN THIS BOOK may be used in a spectrum of creative learning activities to enrich and enliven the social studies. Generally, it is not suggested that they be memorized or used as test material. While many teachers would expect their students to know the content of some lists such as the states and capitals (List 502) or the items of the Bill of Rights (List 213), it is hoped that the lists will be used primarily to stimulate students' thinking, to spark enthusiasm for the social studies, to invite discussion, and to challenge students' assumptions and attitudes.

The following provides a variety of specific suggestions for using *The Social Studies Teacher's Book of Lists* with your students. With imagination you can create other uses. Your students may even suggest possible learning activities incorporating lists. Experiment, adapt, and refine. Classes differ; the same activity may not work the same with two seemingly identical classes. Also employ a variety of approaches. The element of surprise can be a most valuable motivator.

CLASSROOM CHALLENGE

This activity is adapted from the television game show "Family Feud." It can be played with two or more teams of 4–6 persons each.

Preparation:

In bold letters at least 2 inches high, print each list on newsprint or cardboard. Cover each individual item with a strip of paper that is attached lightly so that the strip can be removed easily. Leave the title of the list uncovered. Make a master copy of each list so that individual items can be uncovered as they are correctly identified.

Directions:

Select 2–4 teams of 5–6 students. Try to assure that the teams are about equal in academic ability. Hang the list on the front wall so that all will be able to read it. The teams stand or are seated on either side so that they do not block the view of the list by the nonparticipants. The individual items of the list are each covered with their slips of paper. Appoint a scorekeeper and an assistant to reveal the individual items on the list as they are correctly identified. You may either serve as the master of ceremonies or choose a student to fill that role after the game is understood.

Toss a coin to see which team will begin. The master of ceremonies describes the type of items included on this list. One at a time and without consultation, each participant of the



beginning team suggests one item he/she believes will appear on the list. If the participant's response is correct, the strip of paper covering the item is removed before the next person on the team responds. For each incorrect response, the scorekeeper marks a large X on the chalkboard. If the team records three incorrect responses, they lose their turn and the next team may attempt to finish the list.

A team scores 5 points when each person on the team responds and no more than two incorrect responses occurred. For example, on a 6-student team 5 points will be awarded if four or more items are correctly identified from the list. In the event that a team has three incorrect responses, the next team may attempt to complete the list. The second team receives credit for the items already correctly guessed by the first team. For example, if the first team (of 6 members) had correctly identified two items from the list before recording three incorrect responses, the second team only has to correctly identify two more items from the list to win the 5 points.

The winner may be the first team to win 25 points, or you may choose to set a time limit. Whoever is ahead at the end of the time limit wins.

Suggested List (with List Numbers):

Earliest Colleges (14)

The Confederate States (31)

Flags Flown over Texas (42)

Seven Wonders of the Ancient World (133)

The Axis Powers of World War II (168)

Former Republics of the U.S.S.R. (178)

The Cabinet Positions (212)

Early Black Civil Rights Leaders (247)

Religious Symbols (339)

Things Not Around in 1960 (348)

Major World Religions (357)

The Endocrine Glands (449)

Parts of the Brain (450)

Provinces and Territories of Canada (509)

The 20 Most Populous Countries (510)

The Great Lakes (521)

Soybean Products (530)

Major Wheat Producing Countries (532)

COOPERATIVE LEARNING REPORTS

You can develop the attitudes and skills of cooperation by assigning small groups to work together on projects selected from the lists.

Preparation:

Select the list on which students will base their projects, for example, "Famous American Indians." Write each item on the list on a different piece of paper and place the slips in a box or bag.



Directions:

Break the class into cooperative learning groups of 2–4 students. (For more information on effectively developing cooperative learning groups, see D. W. Johnson and R. T. Johnson, Learning Together and Alone [Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1987], or R. E. Slavin, Cooperative Learning [New York: Longman, 1983].) Each group draws a slip of paper selecting their topic for the project.

Describe the type of final product desired—written report, oral report, videotape, display, skit, etc. Encourage the groups to be creative in their approaches. Announce the final due date and if possible allot some class time for the groups to meet together to plan their projects.

Suggested Lists (with List Numbers):

Household Implements of the Pioneers (24)

Major Civil War Battles and Campaigns (40)

Inventions of Thomas Edison (56)

The Muckrakers (60)

Women's Rights Pioneers (61)

Fads and Fancies of the 1920's (69)

The Alphabet of the New Deal (70)

Fads and Fancies of the 1930's (72)

Fads and Fancies of the 1950's (82)

Notable African Americans (102)

U.S. Women's Firsts (106)

American Inventors and Their Inventions (112)

Major Egyptian Deities (138)

Greek Dieties (141)

Roman Deities (145)

Major World Philosophers (200)

The Bill of Rights (213)

Investment Opportunities (282)

American Architectural Styles (305)

U.S. Social Reformers (322)

Contemporary Social Problems (346)

Major World Religions (357)

Eminent Pioneer Psychologists (412)

Counseling Approaches (415)

Common Defense Mechanisms (429)

Self-Help Groups (436)

Provinces and Territories of Canada (509)

Major Crops of the United States (517)

Nations of Africa (539)

World's Most Populous Metropolises (541)

Common Contaminants (544)



SCAVENGER HUNT

Arouse curiosity and encourage students to enter the room early by hiding items from one of the lists. This can be a fun way to introduce a new topic.

Preparation:

On separate $4'' \times 6''$ index cards, print individual items from one of the lists. Laminate the cards so they can be reused in future classes.

Directions:

Before students begin arriving for class, tape the cards around the room. Place them so they can be easily found, but in somewhat unusual spots (e.g., near the baseboard, on the wastebasket, beneath the pencil sharpener). Students should write down the items of the list as they discover them. It may stimulate enthusiasm to award a small prize or privilege to the person recording the most items from the list before class begins.

Suggested Lists (with List Numbers):

Witticisms and Quotations of Ben Franklin (8)

Achievements of Thomas Jefferson (18)

Civil War Military Leaders (35)

Inventions of Thomas Edison (56)

Popular Songs of 1900 (57)

Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points (65)

Fads and Fancies of the 1920's (69)

American Automobiles of the 1930's (73)

Slang of the 1950's (81)

U.S. Women's Firsts (106)

American Inventors and Their Inventions (112)

Timeline of Toys (117)

Ancient Units of Measurement (134)

"Love" in Other Languages (194)

Irish Proverbs (198)

Portraits on U.S. Currency (218)

The Federal Reserve Banks (223)

Early Black Civil Rights Leaders (247)

Labor Unions (300)

Tips for Wise Online Shopping (317)

Folk Medicines (325)

The Golden Rule in Many Religions (338)

Words Borrowed from African Languages (342)

Australian Slang (344)

Things Not Around in 1960 (348)

Forms of American Music (350)

Advice from Aesop (355)



ACTIVITIES TO USE WITH THE LISTS

Major World Religions (357)

Phobias (414)

Research-Based Suggestions for a Happier Life (428)

Common Defense Mechanisms (429)

The Most Common Fears (438)

Multiple-Intelligences: 8 Ways of Being Smart (452)

Time Management Strategies (470)

Hearing Impaired Persons of Note (486)

Current Names of Old Places (496)

Nicknames of the States (504)

The 20 Most Populous Countries (510)

Weather Signs from American Folklore (513)

Largest Islands (524)

Geographic Nicknames (528)

Major Crude Oil Producing Countries (533)

World's Most Populous Metropolises (541)

PAIRING PUZZLES

This is a fun way to break the class into pairs.

Preparation:

Select a list that offers pairs of items such as vocabulary, nicknames, or achievements. Print the pairs on a sheet of paper as a matching quiz (for example, writing the names of inventors on the left and their invention on the right half). Cut each card in half such that the key word (inventor) and its match (invention) are on separate halves. Use a zigzag cut so that no two halves will be exactly the same. Shuffle the half-page sheets to mix up the order. There should be a sufficient number of cards for each pair of students.

Directions:

Distribute the cut card so that each student ends up with one half. Students must mingle to locate the student with the piece that matches their half. In pairs, students may now complete activities such as the Matching Game or Cooperative Learning Reports. If you have an odd number of students, include one "Wild Card." That student becomes a third member of a selected group. You may let the student choose which pair to join, or you may select it.

Suggested Lists (with List Numbers):

Slang of the 1920's (68)

Slang of the 1930's (71)

Slang of the 1950's (81)

Slang of the 1960's (86)

U.S. Women's Firsts (106)

Nicknames of Famous Americans (126)



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Major Egyptian Deities (138)

"Hello" in Other Languages (192)

"Love" in Other Languages (194)

Nicknames of Various World Leaders (202)

Fathers of . . . (204)

The Cabinet Positions (212)

Portraits on U.S. Currency (218)

Nicknames of the Presidents (239)

Household Measures (272)

Esperanto Vocabulary (327)

Australian Slang (344)

Southern Foods (347)

Phobias (414)

Counseling Approaches (415)

Current Names of Old Places (496)

Nicknames of the States (504)

Countries and Capitals of South America (535)

Nations of Africa (539)

PRESS CONFERENCES

Get students personally involved in social studies content and encourage listening skills with simulated press interviews.

Preparation:

Select an appropriate list related to a topic the class will be studying. Lists of names work best for this activity. Type each item from the list on separate sheets and mix in a box or hat.

Directions:

Allow each student to draw a card from the box or hat. Students are assigned to research that person. Allow at least a week for the research. Encourage students to enmesh themselves into the lives of the persons they are studying, to learn as much as they can about that character and the world in which he/she lived. On the due date(s) individuals are interviewed by the "press corps," which might be a selected group of 4–5 students. The format is much like that of a presidential news conference. Rotate interviewers as each new person is interviewed. As an option, students may be encouraged to dress as their "character." Interviews might be spread out over several weeks. This activity may be used as an extra-credit option.

Suggested Lists (with List Numbers):

Patriot Leaders of the American Revolution (10) Major Native American Leaders (1500–1900) (32) Civil War Military Leaders (35) Infamous Outlaws of the West (46)



ACTIVITIES TO USE WITH THE LISTS

The Muckrakers (60)

Women's Rights Pioneers (61)

U.S. Women's Firsts (106)

Labor Leaders (108)

American Inventors and Their Inventions (112)

Nicknames of Famous Americans (126)

Nicknames of Various World Leaders (202)

Fathers of . . . (204)

Recent Nobel Peace Prize Laureates (206)

The Cabinet Positions (212)

U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justices (219)

Early Black Civil Rights Leaders (247)

U.S. Social Reformers (322)

BRAINSTORMING

Encourage cooperation and develop listening skills through small-group brainstorming. This is also an effective technique for introducing a new topic.

Preparation:

Minimal preparation is required beyond selection of the appropriate list.

Directions:

Divide the class into small groups of 4–5 persons. Identify a leader for each group. A fun way to select leaders is to ask for each group to determine who got up earliest that morning or who has the most brothers and sisters. The leader's role is to keep everyone on task and to record the group's answers. For variety, large-group brainstorming can be done with the entire class. Select two students to write the list on the board as items are suggested.

If the students are not familiar with brainstorming, explain that the focus is upon quantity, to name as many items as they can that belong to the selected list. Allow a maximum of 5 minutes for the brainstorming session. Have each group in turn share two items from their list until all are mentioned. Reveal the total list on a transparency or handout, or just read the ones that have not been mentioned by the students.

Suggested Lists (with List Numbers):

Earliest Colleges (14)

Largest U.S. Cities in 1790 (15)

Northern Advantages During the Civil War (33)

Southern Advantages During the Civil War (34)

Civil War Military Leaders (35)

Nineteenth-Century American Authors (52)

Occupations of the Nineteenth Century (53)



American Automobiles of the 1930's (73)

Sources for Genealogical Research (128)

Signs of the Zodiac (151)

Major Languages of Europe (191)

Greatest Engineering Achievements of the Twentieth Century (176)

Richest Countries (184)

The Bill of Rights (213)

Current Supreme Court Members (220)

Top 10 Lobbyists' Expenditures in Washington, D.C. (251)

Hottest Job Prospects in the Next Decade (275)

Effects of Mandatory Overtime (278)

Most Dangerous Jobs in America (279)

Top Consumer Complaints (293)

Ways to Improve Gas Mileage (297)

Labor Unions (300)

Biggest Companies in the U.S. (309)

Careers in Sociology (320)

Problems Facing Teenagers (323)

Predictors of Successful Marriages (371)

Research on Effective Schools (375)

Recipe for Avoiding Poverty (396)

Fizzled Fashion Fads (405)

Research-Based Suggestions for a Happier Life (428)

Barriers to Effective Communication (446)

Leadership Qualities (447)

Major Stressors for Adolescents (458)

Physical Symptoms of Stress (459)

Stress Reduction Techniques (465)

Time Management Strategies (470)

Causes of Procrastination (475)

The 20 Most Populous Countries (510)

Potential Effects of Pollution (546)

BINGO

You'll be surprised how much students remember when lists are incorporated into versions of Bingo. This can be an effective technique for emphasizing the breadth of a list, such as contributions by women, or the variety of religions in the world. It is a fun way to introduce a new topic.



Preparation:

The easiest way to make the game cards is to duplicate the blank Bingo card given here. Give each student a copy or write the selected list on the chalkboard. The lists used should have at least 24 items. Have the students fill the 24 open boxes on their Bingo cards with separate items from the list. They should mix up the order of the items as they write so that no two cards will be exactly the same. You will also need about 20 markers for each student.

Cut up a copy of the list so that each item of the list is on a separate slip of paper. Be sure each item on the list is included. Place all slips in a box or bag and shake. You may choose to laminate and save the game cards for use with future classes.

Directions:

When each student has a game card with items of the list written in the open boxes, the game is ready to begin. It is played much like the traditional game of Bingo. As a slip is drawn from the box, it is read aloud. Each student who has that item on his/her card places a marker on that box. The winner is the first person to get five items in a row vertically, horizontally, or diagonally. Everyone begins with the center box covered as a free one. A winner calls out "Bingo." It is probably a good idea to verify that the person does indeed have five in a row.

To build enthusiasm for the game, award a small prize to the winners. It can be a class-room privilege, small token, poster, button, free sports tickets, or other freebie.

Suggested Lists (with List Numbers):

Civil War Military Leaders (35)

Major Civil War Battles and Campaigns (40)

Occupations of the Nineteenth Century (53)

Automobile Brands of 1906 (62)

Slang of the 1930's (71)

Popular Radio Shows of the 1940's (77)

Innovations of the 1980's (98)

U.S. Women's Firsts (106)

Women Inventors (107)

Entrepreneurs Who Shaped American History (111)

American Inventors and Their Inventions (112)

The Greek Alphabet (142)

Roman Deities (145)

Presidents of the United States (229)

Things Not Around in 1960 (348)

Phobias (414)

Counseling Approaches (415)

Stress Prevention Techniques (464)

Stress Reduction Techniques (465)

Time Management Strategies (470)

Nicknames of the States (504)

Countries and Capitals of South America (535)



BINGO

	FREE	

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MATCHING QUIZ

Stimulate interest by having pairs of students attempt to match pairs of items from lists.

Preparation:

Select a list that offers pairs of items such as vocabulary, nicknames, or achievements. Print or type the list on a sheet of paper as a matching quiz; for example, listing names in the left-hand column, and their accomplishments in scrambled order in the right-hand column. Duplicate a sufficient number for each pair of students.

Directions:

Form pairs either at random or using a technique such as Pairing Puzzles. Distribute a quiz sheet to each pair. Direct the students to connect each item from the left-hand list to the appropriate item on the right-hand list with a straight line. After 3–5 minutes, call time and score the results.

Suggested Lists (with List Numbers):

Occupations of the Nineteenth Century (53)

Slang of the 1920's (68)

Slang of the 1930's (71)

Slang of the 1950's (81)

U.S. Women's Firsts (106)

First Hits of Top Recording Artists (119)

Nicknames of Famous Americans (126)

Major Egyptian Deities (138)

Fathers of . . . (204)

Portraits on U.S. Currency (218)

Nicknames of the Presidents (239)

Presidential Trivia Quiz (242)

Household Measures (272)

Labor Unions (300)

Old Names for Illnesses (326)

Phobias (414)

Current Names of Old Places (496)

Nicknames of the States (504)

Countries and Capitals of South America (535)

Countries and Capitals of Europe (536)

Countries and Capitals of Asia (537)



CROSSWORD PUZZLES

Spark interest or review through crossword puzzles based on appropriate lists. An example based on List 229, "Presidents of the United States," is presented here.

Preparation:

Using an appropriate list, construct a crossword puzzle. A very useful computer program, "Crossword Magic," is available for the Apple GS or Macintosh computers from Mindscape, Inc., 3444 Dundee Road, Northbrook, IL 60062, or most major computer software mail-order houses. You may choose to give the students a list including the words used in the puzzle. Duplicate copies of the finished puzzle. You might challenge older students to construct their own puzzles.

Directions:

Distribute a copy of the puzzle for each student or to each pair. Crossword puzzles can be completed in pairs, in class, or as homework. It is generally best to permit students to use whatever resources they can as this reinforces information-gathering skills. Post the answers.

Crossword Puzzle Software:

Across

http://thinks.com

Crossword Compiler

http://www.crossword-puzzle-maker.com

Crossword Creator

http://www.centronsoftware.com

Crossdown

http://www.crossdown.com

Cross Works

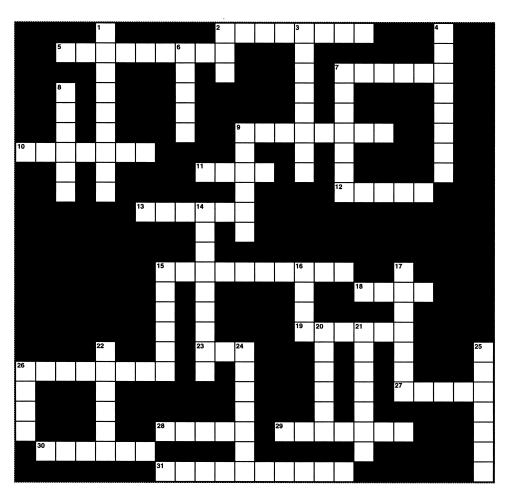
http://www.homeware.com

Sympathy—Crossword Construction

http://www.bryson.demon.co.uk



Presidential Crossword Puzzle



Across

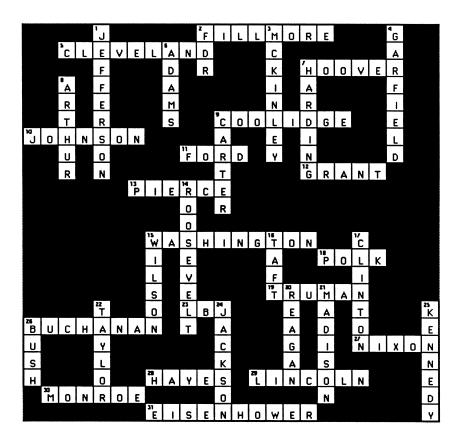
- 2. Brokered The Compromise of 1850
- 5. Only Pres. to serve non-consecutive terms
- 7. Slogan was "A chicken in every pot and two cars in every garage"
- 9. "Silent Cal"
- 10. First Pres. to be impeached
- 11. Played football at Univ. of Michigan
- 12. West Point grad. & Civil War general
- 13. Completed the Gadsden Purchase
- 15. Only Pres. to receive 100% of electoral college votes
- 18. "Fifty-four, forty or fight" campaign
- 19. Ordered atomic bomb drop on Japan
- 23. Began the "War on Poverty"
- 26. Never married
- 27. Only Pres. to resign from office
- 28. Husband of "Lemonade Lucy"
- 29. First Republican Pres.
- 30. "Era of Good Feeling" President
- 31. WWII general

Down

- 1. Purchased the Louisiana Territory
- 2. Elected Pres. 4 times (initials)
- 3. Pres. during Spanish-American War
- 4. Shot July 2, 1881; died Sept. 19
- 6. First White House resident
- 7. Associated with Teapot Dome scandal
- 8. Pres. 1881-1885
- 9. Peanut farmer
- 14. "Rough Rider"
- 15. The League of Nations initiator
- 16. Later a U.S. Chief Justice
- 17. Wife elected to U.S. Senate
- 20. Star of "Bedtime for Bonzo"
- 21. "The Father of the Constitution"
- 22. "Old Rough & Ready"
- 24. On \$20 bill
- 25. Created the Peace Corps
- 26. Former CIA Director



Presidential Crossword Puzzle Key



Suggested Lists (with List Numbers):

Patriot Leaders of the American Revolution (10)

The Transcendentalists (27)

Civil War Military Leaders (35)

Major Civil War Battles and Campaigns (40)

Occupations of the Nineteenth Century (53)

The Muckrakers (60)

Women's Rights Pioneers (61)

Notable Hispanic Americans (104)

Notable Arab Americans (105)

U.S. Women's Firsts (106)

Labor Leaders (108)

Entrepreneurs Who Shaped America (111)

American Inventors and Their Inventions (112)

Nicknames of Famous Americans (126)

Early Explorers of the Americas (157)

Nicknames of Various World Leaders (202)

Portraits on U.S. Currency (218)

Presidential Firsts (238)



Nicknames of the Presidents (239) Eminent Pioneer Psychologists (412) Common Defense Mechanisms (429) Current Names of Old Places (496) States and Their Capitals (502) Geographic Nicknames (528) Countries and Capitals of Asia (537)

WORD PUZZLES

Generate a variety of word puzzles to introduce new content, as sponge activities, to peak curiosity or to stimulate review. An example based on List 229, "Presidents of the United States," is presented here.

Preparation:

Using an appropriate list, construct a hidden word puzzle. While puzzles can be made by hand, several inexpensive computer programs create puzzles very quickly. (See list below.) You may want to give the students a list including the words used in the puzzle. Duplicate copies of the finished puzzle.

Directions:

Distribute a copy of the puzzle for each student or to each pair. Word puzzles can be completed in pairs, in class, or as homework. Some teachers distribute word puzzles before the students enter the room. A note on the board invites students to begin working on the puzzle—either individually or in pairs—as soon as they enter the room. This entices students into a learning mode, even before the class officially begins.

Word Puzzle Software:

The following computer software easily and quickly create a variety of word puzzles:

Word Search Construction Kit http://www.wordsearchkit.com

Wordsearch Creator http://www.centronsoftware.com

Word Splash Pro http://wordsplashpro.chronasoft.com

Suggested Lists:

The same lists that would be appropriate for crossword puzzles could be used for word puzzles.



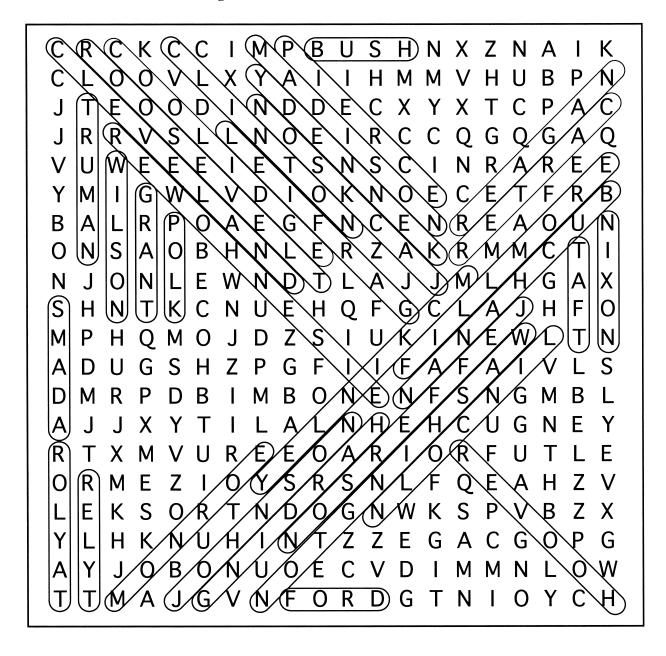
Presidents Word Puzzle

There are thirty-four names of U.S. Presidents in the word puzzle below. How many can you find? Names may appear horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forward, or backward. Circle each one as you find it.

Χ 0 OR

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Presidents Word Puzzle Key



ANAGRAMS

Anagrams, or words with the letters scrambled, can be used to develop interest in a topic and to practice problem-solving skills.

Preparation:

Select a list comprised of one-word items. On a chalkboard, newsprint, or handout, rearrange the letters of the words on the list using all capital letters. For example, from the list of the states the anagram KASALA would unscramble ALASKA. A maximum of ten words is sufficient for all but the more advanced classes.



Directions:

Reveal or distribute the anagrams. Tell the students the topic of the lists (e.g., States of the Union). While the puzzles can be done individually either in class or as homework, it is probably best to randomly pair students. This encourages cooperation and minimizes the disadvantages of ability. If spelling may be a problem, a copy of the correctly spelled list might be posted. Anagrams may also be distributed as "fillers" to constructively occupy moments such as when students complete a list early.

Anagrams Software:

The following computer software programs easily and efficiently create an assortment of anagrams:

Anagrams Creator

http://www.centronsoftware.com

Anagram Genius

http://www.genius2000.com

Suggested Lists (with List Numbers):

North American Explorers (3)

Tools of the Pioneers (23)

Weaponry of the Civil War (36)

Nineteenth-Century American Authors (52)

Women's Rights Pioneers (61)

African American Firsts (101)

Clothing Timeline (118)

Wars Involving the United States (121)

Nicknames of Famous Americans (126)

The Seven Deadly Sins (155)

Early Explorers of the Americas (157)

Fathers of . . . (204)

Religious Symbols (339)

Holy Books (340)

Forms of Marriage (352)

Major World Religions (357)

Ivy League Colleges (380)

Psychological Needs (425)

Multiple-Intelligences: 8 Ways of Being Smart (452)

Forms of Propaganda (455)

Map Features (498)

Provinces and Territories of Canada (509)

Longest Rivers of the World (511)

Weather Terms (516)

Major Crops of the United States (517)

World Currencies (529)



DICTIONARY GAME

This is a variation of the old party game. The idea of the game is to guess the correct definition of an unfamiliar word. It works well with lists that include words that are entirely new to the students. You will need a sufficient supply of identical $3'' \times 5''$ cards or pieces of paper for each student to have six pieces.

Preparation:

Advance preparation consists of selecting a list related to the topic the class is studying. It is important that the students are unlikely to know the words on the list. For each item on the list, write the word and its definition on a card or paper. You will need one set of cards for every five students in the class.

Directions:

Break the class into groups of 5–6 students and have them gather in small circles. Each student will need the same number of cards as there are in the prepared deck. Place a set of prepared cards face down in the center of each group. One student begins by selecting at random one card from the deck and reading aloud the word from the card, but not its definition. The task is for each student to then make up a plausible definition and write it on one of their cards. They should not see each other's definitions. If they should know the real definition, they should not tell anyone and make up a phoney one. Encourage students to print neatly so that the definition can be easily read.

The cards are then given to the student who drew the original card. He or she will shuffle the cards, including the original one, and then read aloud all the definitions. After all the definitions have been read, the other students are to vote on which they believe is the correct one. Each time they guess correctly, they receive 1 point.

Rotating clockwise around the circle, the process is repeated until all the cards in the deck have been used.

Suggested Lists (with List Numbers):

Slang of the 1890's (49)

Occupations of the Nineteenth Century (53)

Slang of the 1920's (68)

The Alphabet of the New Deal (70)

Slang of the 1930's (71)

Slang of the 1940's (75)

Slang of the 1950's (81)

Slang of the 1960's (86)

Slang of the 1970's (93)

Women Inventors (107)

First Hits of Top Recording Artists (119)

"Hello" in Other Languages (192)

"Peace" in Other Languages (193)

"Love" in Other Languages (194)

Forms of Government (211)



Nautical Measurements (270) Abbreviations of Academic Degrees (304) Old Names for Illnesses (326) Phobias (414)

INTERNET RESEARCH

Assign each student a different item from a relevant list to research on the Internet. In addition to enhancing content knowledge, the research activity develops research and critical-thinking skills.

Preparation:

Select a list related to the topic being taught (for example, List 539, Nations of Africa). Randomly assign each student (or pair of students) one item from the list. If access to a computer lab is available, take the class to the lab and guide their research.

Directions:

Students are asked to research their assigned items via the Internet. A distributed study guide listing specific web sites and relevant questions to answer in their research can help direct their search. (For example, with the nations of Africa list, students might seek the per capita income, average life expectancy, population, and type of government.) At the end of the allotted research period (or perhaps at the next class meeting), have students share their research findings in groups of four. Another option is for the small groups to prepare a brief class report summarizing their discussions.

Suggested Lists (with List Numbers):

Major Native American Leaders (1500–1900) (2)

Revolutionary War Battles (12)

Major Civil War Battles and Campaigns (40)

Important Roads, Trails, and Canals (43)

Major Events of 1876 (44)

The Alphabet of the New Deal (70)

Notable African Americans (102)

Notable Hispanic Americans (104)

Notable Arab Americans (105)

Women Inventors (107)

Entrepreneurs Who Shaped America (111)

American Inventors and Their Inventions (112)

Roman Deities (145)

Least Developed Countries (186)

Major World Philosophers (200)

Standing Congressional Committees (224)

Early Black Civil Rights Leaders (247)

Government's Greatest Endeavors (252)

U.S. Social Reformers (322)



Eminent Pioneer Psychologists (412) Counseling Approaches (415) States and Their Capitals (502) Provinces and Territories of Canada (509) Careers in Geography (520) Countries and Capitals of Asia (537) World's Most Populous Metropolises (541)

INTEREST BUILDERS

Posters

Design (or let students make) colorful posters that incorporate the lists. Add pictures, drawings, and designs related to the theme of the list. The posters can be displayed on the door or in the room as interest grabbers. Try hanging a new one each day or on random days. The element of surprise gets students' attention. They begin to read the posters before class begins. Save them for use next year.

Bulletin Board Displays

Challenge a group of students to design and construct an attractive bulletin board display (either in the classroom or in a hallway) that incorporates one of the lists. Photos, drawings, and color add to the interest.

Coming Attractions

As a homework assignment, announce the topic of one of the lists (e.g., Items Rationed During World War II (80), Fads and Fancies of the 1970's (94), Things from 1960 That Are Hard to Find Today (349), or Common Superstitions (445).

Have the students enlist the aid of their parents in listing as many items as they can. In the next class, have students call out their items as one student records them on the board. Add any from the published list that are not mentioned by the students.

Learning Centers

Incorporate lists into learning centers. Photos or drawings that illustrate the lists will add interest. The goal should not be to memorize the lists, but to use them to reinforce a concept, apply a skill, challenge assumptions, develop appreciation, or influence attitudes.

Handouts

Some of the lists make useful handouts that the students can read and take home. They will not only arouse students' interest but parents' as well.

Overhead Transparencies

Include some of the lists on overhead transparencies. Turn on the transparency before the class begins. Students who arrive early can enjoy the day's list. When the bell rings, turn off the transparency. This rewards students who are on time and increases the day's learning time, as well as arousing interest in the day's topic. If time permits at the end of class, you may put the transparency back on.



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