

ESL Game: Connect Four Word Formation

Connect Four Word Formation is a great game for students studying for Cambridge exams such as FCE, CAE and CPE. In this activity, students look at the root of a word and have to turn the word into a noun, verb, adjective or adverb. The first team to get four squares in a row are the winners.

Aim: Practice word formation with students

Level: Teens and adults (Lower intermediate +)

Time: 10 – 15 minutes

Method

1. Project, print or write the root words on the the board in a table. See the printable below for examples.
2. Put students in teams. You can have two or more teams playing at the same time.
3. The first team selects a word from the board and they must change the word into the correct form (e.g a noun if students are practicing noun formation.)
4. The next team then takes their turn. The first team to connect four (horizontally, vertically or diagonally) are the winners.

B2 (FCE) Change to nouns

Able	Meet	Consider	Amaze	Clear
Satisfy	Repeat	High	Invade	Laugh
Employ	Divide	Angry	Happy	Inhabit
Argue	Create	Use	Accept	Assist
Attract	Educate	Safe	Hot	Solve
Achieve	Grow	Inhabit	Conclude	Prefer
Pollute	Describe	Measure	Danger	Ecology
Attend	Apologise	Depend	Entertain	Communicate
Connect	Add	Defend	Intend	Fly
Direct	Dark	Succeed	Respond	Admit
Adult	Divide	Advertise	Repeat	Free

C1 (CAE) Change these verb and nouns to adjectives

Advise	Accuracy	Attend	Destroy	Create
Represent	Celebrate	Wealth	Aggression	Hazard
Vary	Respect	Produce	Hair	Life
Volunteer	Absence	Act	Appear	Cloud
Protect	Ambition	Migrate	Hill	Ease
Time	Prevent	Sleep	Defend	Mud
Impress	Danger	Oblige	Rock	Provoke
Support	Divide	Chat	Insist	Sun
Caution	Cooperate	Chat	Express	Hazard
Secret	Support	Luxury	Religion	Rely
Satisfy	Humour	Ignore	Friend	Produce