

Unit 5 Don't say it!



cut and dried

decided
settled
definite

first and foremost

primarily
definite
above all

ins and outs

particulars
details
features

back and forth

alternating
seesaw
fluctuating

by and large

commonly
usually
generally

touch and go

uncertain
precarious
insecure

trial and error

experiment
research
speculation

tried and tested

proven
demonstrated
approved

fits and starts

erratic
haphazard
sporadic

chalk and cheese

opposite
different
night and day

give and take

compromise
concession
reciprocity

black and white

categorical
unequivocal
clear-cut

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Activity

Individual and group work:
speaking

Aim

To give students the opportunity to
revise binomials

Vocabulary

Binomials

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet
and cut up one set of cards.

Time

15 minutes

Teaching notes

Procedure

- › Tell your students that they are going to play a guessing game using binomials. They will be given a binomial to describe to their classmates without using certain key words and phrases that would make it obvious. If a student uses one of the taboo words or phrases in their description, they are disqualified. They may also not, of course, use part of the binomial.
- › Points will be given to both the describer and to the student who guesses the binomial correctly.
- › Have each student take a card from the deck of binomials, then give them two minutes to prepare their descriptions. Suggest that they take notes to help them avoid using the key language.
- › While the students prepare their descriptions, circulate and offer support.
- › When the descriptions are ready, either nominate a student to go first or ask for a volunteer.
- › If a student thinks they know what the binomial is, they should say it: they do not have to wait until the end of the description. However, warn them that they only get two guesses (this is in order to prevent them from simply saying each of the binomials in the book one by one).
- › If a student guesses what the binomial is, they receive a point, as does the describer. If the describer completes their description and no one has guessed what the binomial is, you may choose to end the turn (in which case no one gets any points) or allow the describer to continue their description.
- › After each student has taken a turn describing a binomial, the points are added up and a winner declared.

Extension activity

As a whole class activity, look at any binomials that were not described and ask students how they would have described them.