

# 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

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**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.