

The Odd One Out Game

This exercise requires identifying differences and similarities between various elements

DIRECTIONS:

- Divide into small groups of 3-4 students. Review the list of items and decide which one does not belong. Record the reason.
- Groups will report their "Odd One Out" and state their reason for selecting it.
- Groups will get 1 point if they state a unique reason that is different from all the other groups,

(1) cat dog turtle elephant

Reason:

(2) angry happy violence jealous

Reason:

(3) war flood drought plague

Reason:

(4) doctor poet priest psychologist

Reason:

(5) helicopter bird bus airplane

Reason:

(6) novel newspaper magazine radio broadcast

Reason:

Other sets

- apple, orange, mango, banana, grape, peach
- - India, China, France, Uganda, U.S.A., New Guinea
- - finger, blood, heart, eye, muscle, tongue
- - sock, coat, dress, scarf, jeans, tee shirt
- - tree, bush, flower, weed, plant, grass
- - trumpet, drum, violin, flute, harp, piano
- - river, waterfall, lake, sea, canal, puddle
- - quiet, angry, graceful, shy, modest, quick
- - peace, joy, harmony, beauty, delicacy, grace
- - along, under, up, behind, into, on
- - street, traffic, light, car, bus, train, market
- - skipping, sliding, swimming, reading, running, dancing
- - bakery, café, cinema, bank, supermarket, grocery
- - butcher, teacher, mother, baker, clerk, photographer
- - chair, table, window, cupboard, desk, shelf

Variation

Play the game as a class. Write 4-6 word on the board and ask the students which word does not "belong" to the others. Challenge the students to argue why this word is the "odd one out."

Each time you and the students agree that a word is the "odd one out", erase it from the board until you are left with two words. Then ask the students to suggest 10 ways in which the two words are different.

Source: Adapted from *Discussions That Work* by Penny Ur (Cambridge Press, 1981); *Five-Minute Activities* by Penny Ur and Andrew Wright (Cambridge Press, 1992); and bogglesworld.com