

GAME BASED ACTIVITY

Taboo (vocabulary game)



Type of Assessment

Formative assessments monitor learning while summative assessments evaluate. This activity will serve as a *summative assessment*. Its effectiveness depends upon students already having a good understanding of the unit's content. If they do not already have the vocabulary words memorized, they will struggle to participate and not have as much fun.

Learning Objectives

- Describe vocabulary words
- Use vocabulary words in a sentence

Game Description

<u>artificial</u> made fake natural real	<u>collaborate</u> work partner together group	<u>dedicated</u> time loyal committed always	<u>flexible</u> bend twist gymnastics elastic
<u>function</u> job purpose tool use	<u>mimic</u> imitate repeat echo copy	<u>obstacle</u> around hurdle over block	<u>techniques</u> ways special learn expert

Vocabulary word

Taboo words

This game is an adaptation of Taboo, a popular word-guessing game. The teacher creates cards based on vocabulary words and concepts from the unit. Consider choosing a mix of easy and hard vocabulary words.

Steps:

- Students are divided into two equal groups
- Phase one of a turn:** Start 60 second timer
 - One student (*Clue Giver*) draws a card
 - Clue Giver* describes the vocabulary word without using any of the taboo words
 - The rest of his/her/their teammates (*Guessers*) try to guess the word
 - The opposing team (*Checkers*) makes sure *Clue Giver* does not say any of the taboo words
 - One of four things can happen
 - If the vocabulary word is guessed, *Clue Giver's* team gets a point
 - If *Checkers* catches *Clue Giver* saying a taboo word OR using pantomime, *Clue Giver* must discard the current card (no points awarded)

- If *Clue Giver* does not know how to describe the word, he/she/they can discard the current card (no points awarded)
 - If the timer goes off, phase one of the turn is complete. Proceed to step 3
- f. Repeat steps 2a-2e
- 3. Phase two of a turn:** Start a 30 second timer
- a. *Clue Giver* tries to use the vocabulary word (on the most recently drawn card) in a sentence
 - b. Teacher evaluates the sentence on the suggested scale
 - No attempt / not understandable / 4 or more errors = 0 points
 - Somewhat correct / 2-3 errors = 1 point
 - Correct / 1 or fewer errors = 2 points
4. The teams switch roles. The team with the *Clue Giver* last turn are now *Checkers*, while the former *Checkers* now has an opportunity to earn points
5. Within each team, *Guessers* take turns being *Clue Giver*
6. Repeat steps 2-4 until Teacher chooses to end the game. As long as time allows, have each student be *Clue Giver* at least once
7. Tally up points
8. Team with most points wins

How will the game assess learning?

The game will assess learning through the points system. Phase one will evaluate “Objective one: Describe vocabulary words,” and phase two will evaluate “Objective two: Use vocabulary words.” In addition, throughout the game students will need to use reading and verbal communication skills.

Specific Example

Example of Taboo cards based on Unit 10

<u>streamline</u> water river organize better	<u>bottleneck</u> slow glass coke delay	<u>Artificial Intelligence</u> AI robot computer brain	<u>debate</u> argue thesis discuss speak
<u>technology</u> STEM electronic phone science	<u>denial</u> disbelieve untrue stage change	<u>personnel</u> employee worker organization military	<u>personal</u> self private me body

Example of vocabulary words used in a sentence

- The organization has **streamlined** product production.
- I got to work late because traffic was **bottlenecked** at the accident.
- Telsa uses **Artificial Intelligence** to make self-driving cars.
- I watched all of the presidential **debates**.
- I don't think I could live without **technology**.
- The kid was **denial** about not being about to go to Disney Land.
- The base was full of military **personnel**.
- I need **personal** space.

At your discretion, students can slightly alter the form of the word (Ex. streamline becomes streamline or debate becomes debates).