Advertising, Modals and Road Safety


After 15 min, collect the papers. Ask them if they have found any difficulties to describe an action or a word and write them on the board. Right after that, separate the groups and place them to work individually and hand them the full lyrics of the song with some missing words. Make sure that they are key words or vocabulary that might appear during the rest of the year, make it challenging instead of picking up only the easiest words to guess.

Before going any further explain the following words that might be difficult to understand for them:

"grizzly", "bait", "unrefrigerated", "scratch", "brand new", "dryer", "outer", "helmet", "rattlesnake", "kidney", "moose", "boom gates", "rhyme". Instead of explaining the vocabulary right way, you can make it far more interesting to tell the story behind those words, their origins, their use, etc. They have already started studying etymology in 2nd of ESO in their mother tongue language and there is an extensive part of the curriculum devoted to it in 2nd Batxillerat (6th form). It’d be highly recommended to mention it to your students to link both languages.

Examples:

1. The word 'grizzly' means "grizzled" (refer it to 'gris' in their mother tongue language); that is, golden and grey tips of the hair. This is not to be confused with the word "grisly" which means "terrifying". Both are homophones. The naturalist George Ord classified the California grizzly in 1815 not for his hair but for his character, so he played on words with similar sound (which is called a pun), because of the many accounts of grizzlies fighting and beating longhorn bulls.
2. 'Piranha' was borrowed from Portuguese which borrowed from the Tupi, some indigenous people from Brazil from the time of the colonisation in the 16th century. 'pira' means fish and 'sainha' means tooth. Which fish is feared for its teeth?

3. The word 'bait' comes from Middle English comes from Middle English which borrowed it from Old Norse (a Germanic language that used to be spoken in Scandinavia). It’s a blend between the words "beit" (pasture, food) and "beita" (to hunt or chase). So, what kind of thing can be some sort of food that you use to hunt?

4. Unrefigerated: if you decompose the word, you will find the prefixes "un-"(no) and "re-"(again) and the suffixes "-ed" (past participle, adjective) and "-rate-" (receive the action of, like "consider" and "considerate"). The root "frige", that you can link to 'fridge', comes from the Latin "frigus" which means "to cool for preservation".

5. Scratch reproduces the sounds when you mark something with a rough or sharp instrument and when you grate the surface of the skin with the nails, as to relieve itching.

6. The expression "brand new" means entirely new. But how "brand" which means the trademark of a product can mean completely new? Very simple: it comes from the mid 15th century and it meant "fresh from the fire" which relates to the trademark of swords and the newness of it.

7. Dryer: the word contains the suffix "-er" which means "does the action of" like "paint-painter", "write-writer", etc. So the root is "dry" that has got origins from Middle Low German and Dutch (dröge [dreug] - droog). In old English it became "dryge".

8. Outerspace: comes from "out of space, it's an apocope [apokapi] , which is the fact of shorten words, made in the late 19th century.

9. Helmet comes from Old English French, the diminutive of "helme" which took it from the Germans "helm". An "helm" is the tiller or the tiller or the wheel that ables you to control, navigate, steer a ship or a boat. It evolves to the meaning of leadership, leader. In ancient times, the one who wore a helmet at a battle was the leader.

10. Rattlesnake: this word is the composition of "rattle" and "snake". "Rattle comes from the Dutch "ratelen" which was the imitative sound to designate the sound made by the little bells worn by pets or contained in babies' toys.
11. The origin of the word "kidney" is unclear, it refers to a pair of bean-shaped organs in the part of the abdominal that form and excrete urine, regulate fluid and electrolyte balance, etc.

12. Moose comes from Algonquian, a Indian indigenous language, a tribe which lived in the North-East of the United States border with Canada. They said 'moosu' to mean "to strip", alluding to the moose's habit of stripping trees. In fact, a moose is a large North American deer, having large flattened palmate antlers (distinguish horns and antlers)

13. Boomgates is the Australian version of "boom barrier" which is a bar or a pole to block access of vehicles when trains are about to pass through in order to avoid a crash between both means of transport: "crash" & "boom".

14. Rhyme comes from old French 'rythme', from medieval latin "rithmus" which is the identity of two sounds of the end or lines of verse.

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