



# **Word-build dominoes**

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Teacher's Notes

# **Word-build dominoes**

### Interaction

Group work

#### Aim

To increase awareness of affixes (with cognate root words).

#### Time

30-40 minutes

#### Skills

Speaking Reading

#### **Grammar and functions**

Use of affixes which change word class

## Vocabulary

Spanish / Portuguese cognates with English

# **Preparation**

Photocopy and cut apart one complete set of cards for each group of five students.

#### Answers

Here are some possible answers. adoration, adorable (in)disputable impossible, (im)possibly, (im)possibility imperfect, (im)perfectly, perfection detestable (in)frequently, (in)frequency unimportant, importantly, importance illogical, logical, (il)logically (im)probably, improbable, (im)probability memorable, memorably (in)definite, (in)definitely, definition (ir)responsible, (ir)responsibly, (ir)responsibility admiration, admirable, admirably sentimental(ly), sentimentality comprehendable respectable, respectably credibility, incredible, incredibly comparability, comparable (in)comparable/ly (un)justifiable, justification, (un)justifiably capably, incapable, capability

#### **Procedure**

- 1 Review the use of prefixes and suffixes with the students. Write a word, e.g. to *excel*, on the board and elicit words students can form by adding a prefix or suffix, e.g. *excellent*, *excellently*, *excellence*.
- 2 Divide the class into groups of five and give each group a set of cards.
- 3 Explain the game.
  - Tell students that root words are on the white cards and affixes are on the black cards.
  - Tell students to place the white cards face down in a pile.
  - One student in each group should deal four black cards to each player and place the rest in a pile face down.
  - One student turns over a white card and then checks his / her four cards to see if there is an affix card that will go with the root word. If so, he / she puts them on one side and then it is the next student's turn and play continues around the table.
  - If a player doesn't have an affix card that fits, he / she must pick up another affix card and keep doing this until two cards match.
  - Students can use two affix cards simultaneously with a root word, if two different words are formed, e.g. (in)definite and definite(ly).
  - If students run out of white cards before the game is over, have them recycle the white cards they have already used.
  - The winner is the first player to use all his / her black cards.
- 4 Start the game and go around the class giving help if it is needed.
- 5 At the end of the game have students read out the words they have formed and check their spelling.

#### **Option**

Have students make a sentence with the word they have created. If they cannot, they must pick up another black card.