TEACHER'S NOTES

Winterval

Overview: Suggestions for using the **Macmillan Dictionary *BuzzWord*** article on *Winterval* and the associated worksheets.

Total time for worksheet activities: 30 minutes

Suggested level: Intermediate and above

1. If you intend to use the worksheets in class, go to the *BuzzWord* article at the web address given at the beginning of the worksheet and print off a copy of the article. Make a copy of the worksheet and the *BuzzWord* article for each student.

2. If the members of your class all have computer access, ask them to open the worksheet before they go to the *BuzzWord* article link. Make sure they do not scroll down to the Key until they have completed each exercise. You might find it helpful not to print a copy of the Key for each student, but to check the answers as a class.

3. Encourage the students to read through the **Find the information** questions before they look at the article. When they have completed the exercise, ask them to compare their answers with a partner. Then check the answers as a class.

4. In Exercise 2, make sure that the students know that the words in the exercise appear in the same order in which they appear in the text.

5. When your students have completed Exercise 3, ask them if they know any other words beginning with the prefix *multi-*. Examples include *multi-storey*, *multimedia*, *multiracial* and *multicoloured*.

6. In Exercise 4, ask the students to complete the exercise and then discuss their answers with a partner. Check the answers as a class. Invite the students to suggest which words are used to form these blends:

   carjacking – car + hijacking

   emoticon – emotion + icon

   guesstimate – guess + estimate

   snazzy – snappy + jazzy

   fantabulous – fantastic + fabulous.

7. As a winding up activity, ask the students if they agree that religious terms such as *Christmas* should be replaced by terms like *Winterval* that embrace different cultures and traditions. Ask them to explain why they agree or disagree with this view.

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Winterval

Go to the **Macmillan Dictionary *BuzzWord*** article at:
http://www.macmillandictionary.com/buzzword/entries/Winterval.html

1 Find the information

Read the *BuzzWord* article on *Winterval* and answer these questions.

1. When does *Winterval* take place?
2. How is the word *Winterval* formed?
3. When was the word first used?
4. Why did Birmingham City Council introduce the term *Winterval*?
5. What two pagan festivals are mentioned in the article?
6. Which festival is described as "the very heart of *Winterval*"?

2 Find the word

Look in the text and find the following words. The first letters of the words are given. The words are in the order in which they appear in the text.

1. a two-word phrasal verb meaning *to eat food with enthusiasm* t_____
2. two verbs meaning *to include* e_____ and e_____
3. a three-word expression meaning *to go to a place, especially when there is something special or unusual about you doing this* s_____
4. an adjective meaning *not religious or not connected with religion* s_____
5. an adverb meaning *in a way that is not conscious or deliberate* u_____
6. a two-word phrasal verb meaning *to appear or happen suddenly or unexpectedly* c_____

3 Word formation: Words beginning with *multi-*

The text includes the terms *multicultural* (involving or consisting of people from different cultures) and *multi-faith* (involving several different religions). Complete the sentences using the words in the box.

multilingual	**multilateral**	**multitasking**
multi-purpose	**multigym**	**multinational**

1. A _____ is a piece of exercise equipment that is designed so you can perform many different exercises on it.
2. A _____ company has offices, shops or factories in several countries.
3. A _____ agreement is one involving three or more groups, especially the governments of three or more countries.
4. A _____ person is able to speak several different languages well.
5. _____ is the ability to do several different things at the same time.
6. A _____ device can be used to do several different things.

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4 Word building: Blends

The word *Winterval* is a *blend* – a word which uses the beginning of one word and the ending of a second to form a new word. Match these blends with their meanings. Check in your dictionary if necessary. Then try to write down which two words they are made up of.

1. carjacking	a. a symbol you type in a text message to show how you feel
2. emoticon	b. extremely good
3. guesstimate	c. attractive, bright and fashionable
4. snazzy	d. a crime in which someone attacks the driver of a car and steals the car
5. fantabulous	e. a rough calculation

5 Adjective + noun collocations

Match the adjectives in the left-hand column with the nouns in the right-hand column. Then check your answers in the article.

1. festive	a. argument
2. rare	b. persuasion
3. fierce	c. opportunity
4. small	d. season
5. ethnic	e. percentage
6. religious	f. groups

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KEY

1 Find the information

1. in the middle of winter
2. it is a blend of *winter* and *festival*
3. 1998
4. to create a more multicultural atmosphere
5. Yule and the winter solstice
6. Christmas

2 Find the word

1. tuck into
2. embrace, encompass
3. set foot in
4. secular
5. unwittingly
6. crop up

3 Word formation: Words beginning with *multi-*

1. multigym
2. multinational
3. multilateral
4. multilingual
5. multitasking
6. multi-purpose

4 Word building: Blends

1. d
2. a
3. e
4. c
5. b

5 Adjective + noun collocations

1. d
2. c
3. a
4. e
5. f
6. b

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