

TEACHER'S NOTES

NEET

www.macmillandictionary.com

**Overview:** Suggestions for using the **Macmillan Dictionary BuzzWord** article on **NEET** 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. Ask students to read through the whole *BuzzWord* article carefully.
4. Tell the students to look at the second paragraph. Highlight the word *acronym* and discuss, or explain if necessary, what it means. For example, ask or show how acronyms differ from other forms of abbreviation (e.g. initialisms) and highlight the difference in pronunciation. Indicate that acronyms are often written in lower case form too. Ask students for examples of both types of abbreviations (acronyms and initialisms).
5. Encourage students to read through the **Find the information** questions. Ask them to work in pairs to find the answers to these questions. Check the answers as a class. Highlight the term *homophone* and elicit some other examples.
6. When the students have completed Exercise 3, if you have access to the **Macmillan English Dictionary CD-ROM** or the **Macmillan Dictionary Online**, encourage students to check their answers by looking up the abbreviations and listening to their pronunciations (by clicking on the sound icons).
7. The **Macmillan Dictionary** will be needed when doing Exercise 4.
8. After completing Exercise 5, you could extend the discussion by comparing and contrasting *homophone* with the term *homograph* and exploring some examples, e.g. *read* (/ri:d/ – infinitive and first person present) vs. *read* (/red/ – simple past and past participle) or *wind* (/wind/ – noun: which blows) vs. *wind* (/waɪnd/ – verb: *wrap or twist*).

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

## 1 Find the information

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

1. What other two ways can *NEET* be written?
2. *NEET* is an acronym (= an abbreviation pronounced as a word). What is the phrase that it represents?
3. Look at the second paragraph. What are the youngest and oldest ages at which a young person is described as a *NEET*?
4. Look at the fourth paragraph. What is the *September Guarantee*?
5. What phrase are critics using to describe young people who cannot get jobs or training?
6. A *homophone* is a word which sounds exactly the same as another word but has a different meaning or spelling. What English word is a homophone of *NEET*, and what is its word class?

## 2 Find the abbreviation

Put the words in each of the phrases below in the correct order. Then fill in the abbreviation which is often used for each phrase.

1. age old pensioner \_\_\_\_\_
2. it-yourself-do \_\_\_\_\_
3. technology information \_\_\_\_\_
4. disc versatile digital \_\_\_\_\_
5. teller automated machine \_\_\_\_\_
6. object unidentified flying \_\_\_\_\_

## 3 Abbreviations: Acronym or initialism?

Which of these abbreviations are *acronyms* (pronounced as words) and which are *initialisms* (each letter pronounced separately)? Put them in the correct column in the table.

AIDS      CIA      HIV      IT      NATO      PIN      SUV

acronym	initialism
AIDS	

WORKSHEET

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## 4 Find the phrase

Below are some examples of new acronyms that have been added to the Macmillan Dictionary. Fill in the gaps below to show what phrases they represent. Use the dictionary to help you.

1. bogof \_\_\_\_\_ get \_\_\_\_\_
2. Asbo anti-social \_\_\_\_\_
3. nimby \_\_\_\_\_ back \_\_\_\_\_
4. VoIP \_\_\_\_\_ protocol
5. POTUS President \_\_\_\_\_

## 5 Homophones

Look at the pairs of sentences and choose the correct homophone to complete them.

1. a. Can you cut me another \_\_\_\_\_ of cake?  
b. This place is so noisy, I can't get a moment's \_\_\_\_\_.  
peace / piece
2. a. A flag was flying from a tall, white \_\_\_\_\_.  
b. A recent \_\_\_\_\_ indicated that most people support the Prime Minister.  
pole / poll
3. a. She was in the 30th \_\_\_\_\_ of her pregnancy.  
b. I hadn't had anything to eat, so I was feeling rather \_\_\_\_\_.  
weak / week
4. a. \_\_\_\_\_ a little oil into the frying pan.  
b. They were very \_\_\_\_\_ and couldn't afford new clothes.  
poor / pour
5. a. If you need to slow down, use the \_\_\_\_\_.  
b. We can't work all day long – let's take a couple of \_\_\_\_\_.  
brakes / breaks
6. a. The shop was closed when I walked \_\_\_\_\_.  
b. We \_\_\_\_\_ the church and continued to the end of the road.  
passed / past



**KEY**

**1 Find the information**

1. neet, Neet
2. not in education, employment or training
3. 16 (youngest) and 24 (oldest)
4. a government scheme guaranteeing a place in education or training for all 16- and 17-year-olds after they have finished their compulsory education
5. *lost generation*
6. *neat* (adjective)

**2 Find the abbreviation**

1. old age pensioner / OAP
2. do-it-yourself / DIY
3. information technology / IT
4. digital versatile disc / DVD
5. automated teller machine / ATM
6. unidentified flying object / UFO

**3 Abbreviations: Acronym or initialism?**

acronym	initialism
AIDS	CIA
NATO	HIV
PIN	IT
	SUV

**4 Find the phrase**

1. buy one get one free
2. anti-social behaviour order
3. not in my back yard
4. voice over Internet protocol
5. President of the United States

**5 Homophones**

- |              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| 1. a. piece  | b. peace  |
| 2. a. pole   | b. poll   |
| 3. a. week   | b. weak   |
| 4. a. pour   | b. poor   |
| 5. a. brakes | b. breaks |
| 6. a. past   | b. passed |