

TEACHER'S NOTES

**vuvuzela, umami, tweetup**

www.macmillandictionary.com



**Overview:** Suggestions for using the Macmillan Dictionary BuzzWord articles (*vuvuzela*, *umami*, *tweetup*) and 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* articles at the web addresses given before exercises 1 and 3, and print off a copy of the articles. Make a copy of the worksheet and the *BuzzWord* articles 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 links. 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 the *BuzzWord* articles on *vuvuzela* and *umami*, paying particular attention to the background sections.
4. Ask students to work in pairs to find the answers to the **Find the information** questions. Check the answers as a class.
5. Before students complete exercise 2, point out that *vuvuzela* and *umami* are examples of *loan words*. Ask them if they can think of any other examples of loan words in English, and the languages they come from (e.g. *duvet*, *bureau* = French, *graffiti* = Italian, *kindergarten*, *zeitgeist* = German). Point out that this phenomenon is also sometimes referred to as *borrowing*, and is one mechanism for new words entering a language. Can they think of examples of English words that have been adopted in their native languages?
6. If students are having problems completing exercise 2a, allow them to use the **Macmillan Dictionary** to work out the answers. If there is no computer access in class, make and distribute copies of the *BuzzWord* articles needed to complete section 2b.
7. Ask students to read the *BuzzWord* article on *tweetup*, and complete exercises 3 and 4 independently.
8. Before students complete exercise 5, explore the fact that, within phrasal verbs, the preposition (sometimes referred to as the *particle*) often has a particular meaning that you can see in more than one example. The preposition *up*, for instance, often means 'moving to a higher position', so we see examples like *lift up* and *pick up*. If we understand what these prepositions mean, it can help us to work out the meaning of phrasal verbs that we haven't come across before. Good dictionaries of phrasal verbs often have special entries for prepositions like *up* which explain the most common meanings they have (if you have access to a volume such as **Macmillan Phrasal Verbs Plus**, you can show them this). Another common meaning for *up* is in the sense of 'improving and increasing'. Point out the example of this in the exercise and continue to complete the table as a class activity.

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Go to the **Macmillan Dictionary BuzzWord** articles at:

<http://www.macmillandictionary.com/buzzword/entries/vuvuzela.html>

<http://www.macmillandictionary.com/buzzword/entries/umami.html>

**1 Find the information**

Read the background sections of the **BuzzWord** articles on *umami* and *vuvuzela* and answer these questions.

1. In which two countries were these words first used?
2. *Umami* is often described as the 'fifth taste'. What are the names of the other four tastes?
3. Indicate if this statement is true or false: *Umami was officially recognized as a fifth taste by Japanese chemist Kikunae Ikeda in 1912.*
4. Name three foods which often have the delicious *umami* taste.
5. Which African language might the word *vuvuzela* originate from?
6. What was the purpose of the 'Kudu horn'?
7. What two materials have been used to make *vuvuzelas*?

**2 What do they mean and where do they come from?**

a. *Vuvuzela* and *umami* are loan words, words from other languages that are used by English speakers. Below are four more examples of loan words that appear in the Macmillan Dictionary. Can you match them with the correct definitions? There is one definition you do not need.

sudoku

wiki

tsunami

barista

1. photographers who follow famous people to take pictures of them for newspapers and magazines  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. a person who works in a coffee bar  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. a very large wave caused by something such as an earthquake  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. a website which allows readers to add and edit content  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. a game in which you fill a special grid with the numbers 1 to 9 so that each row, column and block of nine squares contains each number only once  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you know the loan word which matches the extra definition? What language does it come from?

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b. *Tsunami* is a Japanese word. Do you know which languages the other three words come from? If you're not sure, find the answers by reading the background sections of the *BuzzWord* articles for each word.

1. *tsunami* = Japanese
2. *barista* = \_\_\_\_\_ (<http://www.macmillandictionary.com/buzzword/entries/barista.html>)
3. *sudoku* = \_\_\_\_\_ (<http://www.macmillandictionary.com/buzzword/entries/sudoku.html>)
4. *wiki* = \_\_\_\_\_ (<http://www.macmillandictionary.com/buzzword/entries/wiki.html>)

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

### 3 Choose the correct answer

Read the *BuzzWord* article on *tweetup* and circle the correct option to complete the statements below.

1. A *tweetup* can be an IMPROPER / IMPROMPTU meeting.
2. A *tweetup* is a useful opportunity to participate in OFFLINE / SOCIAL networking.
3. Among the more interesting examples of *tweetups* is one recently hosted by NATO / NASA.
4. This *tweetup* temporarily became one of the hottest FOLLOWED / PURSUED topics in Twitter history.
5. The word *tweetup* is formed from a blend of TWEET / TWITTER and the phrasal verb MEET / GREET up.
6. In 2010, *tweet* was voted word of the DECADE / YEAR by the American Dialect Society.

### 4 Which phrasal verb?

*Tweetup* is formed by combining *tweet* with a phrasal verb. Choose the best phrasal verb to fill the gaps in the sentences below.

1. I'd like my children to \_\_\_\_\_ in the countryside, where the air is cleaner.  
a. bring up      b. get up      c. wake up      d. grow up
2. They \_\_\_\_\_ through the window and stole jewellery worth over £5000.  
a. broke in      b. checked in      c. came in      d. cut in
3. I'm absolutely exhausted. How far is it? I'm not sure I can \_\_\_\_\_ much further.  
a. keep on      b. hold on      c. carry on      d. get on
4. Sorry, I've washed your shirt several times but the stain still won't \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. go out      b. come out      c. fall out      d. back out
5. It's a long journey to Inverness, so we're planning to \_\_\_\_\_ early.  
a. go off      b. take off      c. set off      d. kick off
6. He's so annoying. I'm not sure I can \_\_\_\_\_ his complaints any longer.  
a. come up with      b. put up with      c. get on with      d. get away with

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**5** Phrasal verbs and preposition meanings

The table shows the meanings certain prepositions often have when they form part of a phrasal verb. Complete the table with the prepositions and examples.

off	cross off
up	dress up
down	slow down
out	dig out
on	carry on

Preposition	Meaning in phrasal verb	Example
up	improving and increasing	dress up
	continuing	
	searching and finding	
	decreasing and reducing	
	removing	

Can you think of five more phrasal verbs, using the same five prepositions, to complete the example column?

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## KEY

### 1 Find the information

1. South Africa, Japan
2. sweet, sour, salty, bitter
3. The statement is false. *Umami* wasn't officially recognized as a fifth taste until the 1980s, after a series of scientific studies.
4. tomatoes, cheese and meat
5. Zulu
6. To summon (= call) villagers to meetings
7. tin, plastic

### 2 What do they mean and where do they come from?

2. barista
  3. tsunami
  4. wiki
  5. sudoku
2. barista = Italian
  3. sudoku = Japanese
  4. wiki = Hawaiian

The extra definition is for *paparazzi*. This is from Italian.

### 3 Choose the correct answer

1. A *tweetup* can be an **impromptu** meeting.
2. A *tweetup* is a useful opportunity to participate in **offline** networking.
3. Among the more interesting examples of *tweetups* is one recently hosted by **NASA**.
4. This *tweetup* temporarily became one of the hottest **followed** topics in Twitter history.
5. The word *tweetup* is formed from a blend of **tweet** and the phrasal verb **meet up**.
6. In 2010, *tweet* was voted word of the **year** by the American Dialect Society.

### 4 Which phrasal verb?

1. d. grow up
2. a. broke in
3. c. carry on
4. b. come out
5. c. set off
6. b. put up with

### 5 Phrasal verbs and preposition meanings

Preposition	Meaning in phrasal verb	Example
up	improving and increasing	dress up
on	continuing	carry on
out	searching and finding	dig out
down	decreasing and reducing	slow down
off	removing	cross off

Other examples – possible answers: *speed up, keep on, find out, cut down, take off*.