

TEACHER'S NOTES

New words in 2014

www.macmillandictionary.com

Overview: Suggestions for using the **Macmillan Dictionary BuzzWord** articles on *frost quake*, *emoji*, and *chap hop* and the associated worksheet.

Total time for worksheet activities: 60 mins

Suggested level: Upper 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, 3 and 5, and print off a copy of the articles. Make a copy of the worksheet and the *BuzzWord* articles for each student. You might find it helpful not to print a copy of the Key for each student but to check the answers as a class.
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.
3. Ask students to complete exercise 1 and compare their answers with a partner. When students have completed the exercise, ask them to correct the false statements (see the Key for corrections). Check the answers as a class.
4. Exercise 2 features some higher level nouns and adjectives on the theme of weather. Ask students to complete the exercise individually, encouraging them to start with any words they immediately recognize so that the others can be worked out by a process of elimination. Less confident students could be permitted to look the words up in the Macmillan Dictionary. Check the answers as a class. Point out to students that words like these are quite common in authentic spoken English and are often used in place of core vocabulary like *hot*, *cold*, *wind*, *rain*, etc when describing the weather. As an extension activity/homework, encourage students to listen/watch a BBC weather forecast (usually no more than a couple of minutes long) and make a note of the weather words they hear. (Tip: regional forecasts also sometimes give clear examples of regional British accents.)
5. Ask students to work in pairs to complete Exercise 3. Check the answers as a class.
6. Exercise 4 features some loanwords that have all come into use in English since the year 2000. Complete the exercise as a class activity. Note that all these words have entries in the Macmillan Dictionary, and that *sudoku*, *vuvuzela*, *barista* and *wiki* also feature in the archive of *BuzzWord* articles for possible further reading.
7. Encourage students to read through the questions in Exercise 5 before they look at the *BuzzWord* article on *chap hop*. Ask them to read through the whole article carefully and answer the questions. Tell them to compare their answers with a partner, then check the answers as a class.
8. Exercise 6 features some higher level nouns on the theme of describing music. Ask students to complete the exercise in pairs, using the Macmillan Dictionary to help with any unfamiliar words. As a follow-on, students could pick a song or band they are familiar with and, using the model for support, role-play a short conversation about it. Other

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useful vocabulary: *beat, melody, rhythm, solo, lead/backing singer.*

9. As a wind-up activity (this will require internet access and audio), give the expressions below to the class and go to each of the corresponding entries in the Macmillan Dictionary (randomize the order and ensure students don't see the dictionary entries). Then press the related 'musical effects' icon (red button containing musical note), and ask students to identify the correct English word/expression after listening to the musical genre.

blues	heavy metal
country music	jazz
classical music	rap
disco	rock music

WORKSHEET

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

<http://www.macmillandictionary.com/buzzword/entries/frost-quake.html>

1 Comprehension check

Read the *BuzzWord* article on *frost quake*. Are these statements true (T) or false (F) according to the text?

1. In early 2014, people across Ontario heard gunshots.
2. A *frost quake* is sometimes called a *snow quake*.
3. Frost quakes occur after heavy rainfall and a sharp drop in temperature.
4. Frost quakes are not usually dangerous.
5. A polar vortex is a rotating wind originating from the Arctic.
6. *Seismo-* is a word-forming element meaning 'cracking'.

2 Weather glossary

Match the weather words 1-9 with their definitions a-i.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1. boiling | a. very light rain |
| 2. breeze | b. extremely hot |
| 3. chilly | c. a thin layer of ice that looks like powder |
| 4. drizzle | d. a light wind |
| 5. freezing | e. cold enough to be unpleasant |
| 6. gale | f. a short period when it rains or snows |
| 7. frost | g. a mass of small drops of water in the air |
| 8. shower | h. very cold |
| 9. mist | i. a very strong wind |

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

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

3 Comprehension check

Read the *BuzzWord* article on *emoji* and choose the correct answer according to the text.

1. An emoji is
 - a. a combination of punctuation marks
 - b. a small image
 - c. an abbreviation
2. An emoji is
 - a. colourful
 - b. black and white
 - c. complicated
3. Emojis represent
 - a. objects
 - b. emotions and other everyday concepts
 - c. emotions
4. Emojis are ... in origin.
 - a. Korean
 - b. Chinese
 - c. Japanese
5. Emojis are
 - a. sometimes culturally-specific
 - b. always universal
 - c. never used in Europe
6. The word *emoji* has led to the creation of
 - a. a new noun
 - b. a new verb
 - c. a new noun and a new verb

4 On loan

Circle the phrase which best describes the meaning of the loanwords.

1. tagine a cooking pot / a spice / a vegetable
2. tsunami a strong wind / heavy rain / a very large wave
3. vuvuzela a plastic horn / a tropical fruit / a small drum
4. bento a Japanese drink / a Japanese packed lunch / a Japanese symbol
5. wiki a website / a password / a search engine
6. barista a waiter / a barman / a coffee bar worker
7. sudoku a crossword / a number game / a poem

WORKSHEET

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

5 Find the information

Read the *BuzzWord* article on *chap hop* and answer these questions.

1. What kind of music is chap hop based on?
2. Give two examples of expressions which might feature in chap hop.
3. What musical instrument do chap hop musicians often play?
4. Who famously revealed that he/she was a fan of chap hop?
5. In what year did chap hop first appear?
6. Where did hip hop music originate from?

6 Describing music

Complete the conversation with the nouns in the box.

tune

lyrics

verse

track

chorus

album

A: I bought that new (1) _____ by the Sparkles last week – have you heard it?

B: Oh yes. I really like the Sparkles, their songs always have really interesting (2) _____ – not just the usual themes like love and all that.

A: Yes, I agree, I particularly like the third (3) _____.

B: The one where all the band members sing a (4) _____ each?

A: Yes, and then they all join in for the (5) _____.

B: I don't know, it's a bit repetitive, and I'm not sure I like the (6) _____, it's very slow and depressing.

KEY

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KEY

1 Comprehension check

1. False. People across Ontario heard explosive sounds caused by frost quakes.
2. False. A *frost quake* is sometimes called an *ice quake*.
3. True
4. True
5. True
6. False. *Seismo-* is a word-forming element meaning 'shaking'.

2 Weather glossary

1. b
2. d
3. e
4. a
5. h
6. i
7. c
8. f
9. g

3 Comprehension check

1. b
2. a
3. b
4. c
5. a
6. c

4 On loan

1. a cooking pot
2. a very large wave
3. a plastic horn
4. a Japanese packed lunch
5. a website
6. a coffee bar worker
7. a number game

5 Find the information

1. rap music
2. possible answers: *I say!*, *bally*, *nincompoop*, *frightfully*, *awfully*
3. a banjolele (a cross between a banjo and a ukelele)
4. Michael Gove (former UK Education Secretary)
5. 2007
6. The Bronx and Harlem areas of New York

6 Describing music

1. album
2. lyrics
3. track
4. verse
5. chorus
6. tune