

TEACHER'S NOTES

Brexit

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

Total time for worksheet activities: 35 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. 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 link. Make sure they do not scroll down to the Key until they have completed each exercise.
3. Encourage the students to read through the questions in Exercise 1 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 appear in the same order in which they appear in the text. Point out that a *catchphrase* in this context is something that is widely used and everyone will recognize, rather than a phrase used by one particular famous person. The expression *tongue-in-cheek* often collocates with the words *remark* or *comment*. The expression *to toss* (or *throw*) something or someone *on the scrapheap* is an idiom that is used to suggest that something or someone is no longer useful. *Propagation* is the noun form of the verb *to propagate*, meaning to spread ideas, beliefs, etc to a lot of people, as in 'The idea was first *propagated* by the ancient Egyptians'.
5. Ask your students to complete Exercise 3 without looking back at the text. If they have a good general idea of the sense of the text (and what *Brexit* is in the context of this article), they should be able to answer most of the questions.
6. In Exercises 4 and 5, ask the students to complete the exercise and then discuss their answers with a partner. Check the answers as a class.
7. In Exercise 6, point out that *hold a debate* and *reflect a reality* are also possible as collocations but that they are not correct here as there is only one solution where all the verbs and nouns or noun phrases can be matched.
8. If you have time, you could focus on some of the other vocabulary in the article. Examples include *laughingly* (*amusingly*), *apt* (*appropriate*), *pledge* (*promise*), *imposing* (*large and impressive*), *mash-up* (*a mixture or fusion of disparate elements*), *resoundingly* (*completely and convincingly*), *ebb and flow* (*the way that a situation keeps changing between different states*) and *prolific* (*producing a lot of examples*).
9. As a winding-up activity, ask the students if they have an opinion about *Brexit*. Ask if they agree with the idea of the European Union. What are its benefits and drawbacks?

WORKSHEET

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

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

1 Find the information

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

1. Which two words combine to form the word *Brexit*?
2. What does *Brexit* mean?
3. What are *Eurosceptics*?
4. What are *Bremainers*?
5. What was *Grexit*?
6. Who first coined the term *Grexit*?

2 Find the words

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

1. a verb meaning *to bring a particular emotion, idea or memory into your mind*. e _____
2. a noun meaning *a short phrase that many people know because a famous person often says it*. c _____
3. a three-word adjectival phrase meaning *intended to be humorous and not taken seriously*. t _____
i _____ c _____
4. a verb meaning *to think about something carefully and for a long time*. c _____
5. a noun meaning *a series of things that happen suddenly*. f _____
6. a noun meaning *a pile of things that are no longer wanted or needed*. s _____
7. a noun used in the plural meaning *discussions in which a subject is considered carefully*. d _____
8. a noun meaning *the spreading of something such as a belief to a wide audience*. p _____

3 Comprehension check

Are these statements true or false according to the text? Correct the false statements.

1. If the UK votes to leave, it will be the second country to leave the European Union.
2. The Eurozone is another term for the European Union.
3. After the vote, it is quite likely that the terms *Brexit* and *Bremain* will disappear.
4. The term *Grexit* was modelled on the term *Brexit*.
5. Coining new catchwords to characterize topical scenarios is a growing trend.
6. These terms are more popular and widespread than ever before thanks to the web.

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4 Adjectives

Match the adjectives from the text with their meanings.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. dulcet | a. (of a tune or phrase) attracting your attention and easy to remember |
| 2. abrupt | b. disappointed and annoyed about something |
| 3. unprecedented | c. soft and pleasant |
| 4. light-hearted | d. never having happened before |
| 5. catchy | e. funny and not intended to be serious |
| 6. disgruntled | f. sudden and unexpected, often in an unpleasant way |

5 Word building

Complete the table using words from the text.

Adjective	Noun
1. vital	_____
2. real	_____
3. visible	_____
4. _____	topic
5. _____	lexis
6. _____	hundred

6 Verb + noun collocations

Match the verbs in the left-hand column with the nouns or noun phrases in the right-hand column to make expressions from the text.

- | | |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. hold | a. something on the scrapheap |
| 2. fuel | b. a trend |
| 3. toss | c. a reality |
| 4. coin | d. a debate |
| 5. become | e. a referendum |
| 6. reflect | f. a new expression |

KEY

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KEY

1 Find the information

1. *British* and *exit*.
2. The situation of the United Kingdom leaving the European Union.
3. Politicians disgruntled with the UK's membership of the European Union.
4. People who support the UK's membership of the European Union.
5. The possibility that Greece might leave the Eurozone.
6. Economist Ebrahim Rahbari.

2 Find the words

1. evoke
2. catchphrase
3. tongue-in-cheek
4. cogitate
5. flurry
6. scrapheap
7. deliberations
8. propagation

3 Comprehension check

1. False. It will be the first country to leave the European Union.
2. False. It is the group of countries which use the euro as a unit of currency.
3. True.
4. False. The term *Brexit* was modelled on the term *Grexit*.
5. True.
6. True.

4 Adjectives

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

5 Word building

1. vitality
2. reality
3. visibility
4. topical
5. lexical
6. hundredth

6 Verb + noun collocations

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