

TEACHER'S NOTES

showmance

www.macmillandictionary.com

Overview: Suggestions for using the **Macmillan Dictionary BuzzWord** article on *showmance* 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.
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 to correct the false statements (see the Key for the corrections).
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:
staycation – stay + vacation; *telegenic* – television + photogenic; *netiquette* – (inter)net + etiquette;
alcopop – alcohol + pop; *mocktail* – mock + cocktail; *e-tailer* – electronic + retailer.
7. As a winding up activity, ask the students if they think that *showmantic* relationships are a good thing if they help to promote interest in a play, film or television programme.

WORKSHEET

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

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

1 Find the information

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

1. What is a *showmance*?
2. How long does a *showmance* usually last?
3. Where are *showmances* particularly common?
4. Which two words are used to form the blend word *showmance*?
5. What is a *fauxmance*?
6. What word is used for a close but non-sexual relationship between two men?

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 three-word expression meaning *without any special limiting conditions*
 n_____ s_____ a_____
2. a noun meaning *an extra payment or benefit you get in your job* p_____
3. a noun meaning *a short sexual relationship, especially one involving people who are married to other people* d_____
4. a two-word noun meaning *something unusual that is done to make people notice a person or a product*
 p_____ s_____
5. an adjective meaning *false or artificial* c_____
6. an informal expression used to refer to *the first decade of the 21st century* t_____ n_____

3 Comprehension check

Are these statements true (T) or false (F) according to the text?

1. The relationship between Rachel Weisz and Daniel Craig only lasted for a brief period.
2. Many people regard *showmances* as a form of publicity stunt.
3. In reality shows with a competitive element, *showmances* are used as a means of persuading viewers to vote for particular participants.
4. The word *showmance* is only used to refer to short romances between performers in a play, film or television series.
5. The word *showmance* originated in Hollywood.
6. The word *bromance* was first used to describe the relationship between Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson.

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4 Word-building: Blends

Showmance is a blend of *show* and *romance*. Here are some more blends. Match them with their meanings. Check in your dictionary, if necessary.

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. staycation | a. a drink that contains alcohol but tastes like a soft drink |
| 2. telegenic | b. a holiday where you stay at home and visit places nearby |
| 3. netiquette | c. a drink made by mixing different drinks but without alcohol |
| 4. alcopop | d. correct behaviour when you are communicating online |
| 5. mocktail | e. a company (or person) selling goods via the Internet |
| 6. e-tailer | f. used to describe someone who looks good on TV |

5 Verb + noun collocations

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

- | | |
|------------|-------------------------|
| 1. attract | a. criticism at someone |
| 2. level | b. a new word |
| 3. gain | c. an ulterior motive |
| 4. have | d. a film |
| 5. coin | e. interest |
| 6. release | f. momentum |

6 Adjectives

Complete the definitions using these adjectives from the text.

prevalent enduring abrupt short-lived intrinsic fake

- _____ means *lasting a long time*.
- _____ means *lasting a very short time*.
- _____ means *made to look like something real in order to trick people*.
- _____ means *very common in a particular place or among a particular group*.
- _____ means *sudden and unexpected*.
- _____ means *relating to the essential qualities or features of something or someone*.

WORKSHEET

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KEY

1 Find the information

1. a romantic relationship between two members of the cast of a play, film or television series
2. only for the duration of the show
3. in reality TV shows
4. show and romance
5. a fake romance between celebrities
6. bromance

2 Find the word

1. no strings attached
2. perk
3. dalliance
4. publicity stunt
5. contrived
6. the noughties

3 Comprehension check

1. F – it is given as an example of a *showmance* leading to two people getting married.
2. T
3. T
4. F – it is now sometimes used more broadly to refer to any kind of contrived romance
5. F – it originated in the theatre
6. F – it originated in the early *noughties*, before the film and TV series in 2011

4 Word-building: Blends

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

5 Verb + noun collocations

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

6 Adjectives

1. enduring
2. short-lived
3. fake
4. prevalent
5. abrupt
6. intrinsic