

TEACHER'S NOTES

**hat tip**

[www.macmillandictionary.com](http://www.macmillandictionary.com)

**Overview:** Suggestions for using the **Macmillan Dictionary BuzzWord** article on *hat tip* 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 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 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.
7. Encourage the students to form the chunks in Exercise 5 without looking back at the text. When they have completed the task, ask them to compare their answers in pairs. Then they can check their answers by looking in the text.
8. As a winding-up activity, ask the students if they have seen the expression *hat tip* in online blogs, Facebook or Twitter messages, or online forums.

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

## 1 Find the information

Read the **BuzzWord** article on *hat tip* and answer these questions.

1. When do people use the expression *hat tip*?
2. What are the two ways of abbreviating *hat tip* in social media contexts?
3. When did *hat tip* first appear in online contexts?
4. What is *netiquette*?
5. When did the expressions *hat tip* and *tip of the hat* originate?
6. Why is it bizarre that the expression *hat tip* has become popular again so many years later?

## 2 Find the word

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

1. a noun meaning *a slight difference that may be difficult to notice but is fairly important* n \_\_\_\_\_
2. a noun which is used online to indicate *frustration or embarrassment* f \_\_\_\_\_
3. a two-word expression meaning *to become more successful, popular or accepted*  
 g \_\_\_\_\_ g \_\_\_\_\_
4. a two-word phrasal verb meaning *to appear quickly or suddenly* p \_\_\_\_\_ u \_\_\_\_\_
5. an adjective meaning *usual in a particular society or situation* c \_\_\_\_\_
6. a noun meaning *someone you know a little, who is not a close friend* a \_\_\_\_\_

## 3 Comprehension check

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

1. Smiley faces, emoticons, initialisms and descriptive words like *facepalm* are used to emulate conversational nuances by regular users of the internet.
2. The expression *hat tip* has become more widely used in recent times.
3. We use the expression *hat tip* to point other people in the direction of a particular source.
4. *Hat tip* is an alternative expression for the term *netiquette*.
5. In the 19th century, women usually tipped their hat as a form of non-verbal greeting.
6. It is rather ironic that *hat tip* has reappeared at a time when people rarely wear hats.

WORKSHEET

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**4** 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. face     | a. something to be the norm         |
| 2. gain     | b. a contribution                   |
| 3. make     | c. something to someone's attention |
| 4. exchange | d. a challenge                      |
| 5. bring    | e. words                            |
| 6. consider | f. ground                           |

**5** Chunks

Rearrange the words to make expressions from the text. Note that you may need to add a hyphen in some cases.

- with daily a faced challenge
- across right the get message
- media other social of kinds
- the 2000s in early
- kind greeting a non of verbal
- no norm is considered longer the

KEY

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KEY

**1 Find the information**

1. when they acknowledge that someone has brought something to their attention
2. HT and h/t
3. in the early 2000s
4. a polite way of communicating with other people when using the internet
5. in the 19th and early 20th centuries
6. because people rarely wear hats these days

**2 Find the word**

1. nuance
2. facepalm
3. gain ground
4. pop up
5. customary
6. acquaintance

**3 Comprehension check**

1. T
2. T
3. F. We use it when other people point us in a particular direction or provide new information.
4. F. It is one form of the wider concept of netiquette.
5. F. Men did this.
6. T

**4 Verb + noun collocations**

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

**5 Chunks**

1. faced with a daily challenge
2. get the right message across
3. other kinds of social media
4. in the early 2000s
5. a kind of non-verbal greeting
6. is no longer considered the norm