

TEACHER'S NOTES

selfie

www.macmillandictionary.com

Overview: Suggestions for using the **Macmillan Dictionary BuzzWord** article on *selfie* 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 your students all have computer and internet access in class, 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 students to read through the questions in Exercise 1 before they look at the *BuzzWord* article. 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.
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. Ask the students to complete Exercise 4 and then discuss their answers with a partner. Check the answers as a class. Note that *spawn a term* means 'to lead to the creation of a term', e.g. 'The first games console *spawned the term* "the PlayStation generation"', whereas *coin a new word* means 'to use a word or phrase that no one has used before'.
7. When the students have completed Exercise 5, ask them to compare their answers in pairs. As a follow-up task, ask them to find three other words ending in *-ie* by researching them on the internet. (Tip: type 'words ending in *-ie*' into a search engine.) Examples include: *auntie*, *footie*, *freebie* and *techie*.
8. As a winding-up activity, ask the students to discuss if and why they have uploaded *selfies* to social media sites. If they have not done this, ask them to explain why not.

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

1 Find the information

Read the *BuzzWord* article on the word *selfie* and answer these questions.

1. What exactly is a *selfie*?
2. When did the term *selfie* first appear?
3. What is *selfie* short for?
4. Where was the word *selfie* first used?
5. What is *Facebook narcissism*?
6. What is the alternative spelling of *selfie*?

2 Find the word

Look in the article and find the words that match the descriptions below. The first letters of the words are given. The words are in the order in which they appear in the text.

1. an adjective meaning *intended to impress people or attract their admiration, in a way that you think is extreme and unnecessary*
 o _____
2. a verb meaning *to be the best possible example of a particular type of thing*
 e _____
3. an adjective meaning *difficult to deal with or use because of its shape or position*
 a _____
4. a verb meaning *to make someone or something look more attractive*
 t _____
5. a verb meaning *to cause a feeling or attitude to exist*
 e _____
6. an adjective meaning *attracting your attention and easy to remember*
 c _____

WORKSHEET

selfie

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3 Comprehension check

Are these statements true (T) or false (F) according to the text? Correct those that are false.

1. *Selfies* are taken using a camera on a mobile phone or other hand-held device.
2. *Selfies* are usually printed, framed and put on a mantelpiece.
3. It is easier to take a picture of yourself with a conventional camera than with a mobile phone or other hand-held device.
4. Only people in certain age groups and professions use *selfies*.
5. Originally, a *selfie* was a hashtag used on photo-sharing sites.
6. The suffix *-ie* / *-y* is used to form diminutive nouns and usually indicates affection.

4 Verb + noun collocations

Match the verbs in the left-hand column with the nouns or noun phrases in the right-hand column.

- | | |
|------------|---------------------|
| 1. embrace | a. a roll of film |
| 2. spawn | b. a face to a name |
| 3. upload | c. a term |
| 4. put | d. a new word |
| 5. use up | e. a concept |
| 6. coin | f. a photo |

5 Other words ending in *-ie* / *-y*

Match the words with their meanings.

- | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. baddie | a. a taxi driver |
| 2. cabbie | b. the smallest finger on your hand |
| 3. foodie | c. someone in a film or book who does unkind or illegal things |
| 4. softie | d. someone who doesn't eat meat |
| 5. veggie | e. someone who enjoys eating or cooking different types of food and who talks a lot about food |
| 6. pinkie | f. someone who is very emotional or sympathetic to others, especially in a weak or silly way |

KEY

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KEY

1 Find the information

1. a picture of yourself that you take using a camera on a mobile phone or other hand-held device
2. 2004
3. self-portrait
4. as a hashtag on photo-sharing sites
5. interest in your own life, appearance, experiences etc., shared on social media sites
6. *selfy*

2 Find the word

1. ostentatious
2. epitomize
3. awkward
4. titivate
5. engender
6. catchy

3 Comprehension check

1. T
2. F. They are usually digital.
3. F. In the analogue era of photography, it was awkward to take a photo of yourself.
4. F. The concept has been embraced by a range of ages and people from different walks of life.
5. T
6. T

4 Verb + noun collocations

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

5 Other words ending in -ie / -y

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