

The hunt is on!

Level: Intermediate

Age: Teenagers

Time needed: 30 minutes

Lesson aim:

- To help students understand that one word can belong to more than one of the categories called parts of speech

Skills: Study skills, speaking

Materials needed: Worksheet, Macmillan online dictionary

Warmer

Give a copy of the worksheet to each student. Ask the students to read the information shown above.

Ask students if they have ever found it difficult to use an online dictionary. Explain that sometimes people find it difficult to use online dictionaries because there is more than one entry for each word. The reason for this is a single word can belong to more than one of the categories called parts of speech (e.g. noun, verb, adjective, etc).

If possible, show the students the example of *delay* on Macmillan online dictionary website or use the examples on the worksheet.

Tell students that by the end of the lesson, they will be expert word hunters.

Activity 1

Put the students in pairs and ask them to find the number of entries and the different parts of speech for those entries. They will need to use an online dictionary on their phones or a computer.

Go through the answers with the whole class.

Key:

Word	Entries	Parts of speech
a. delay	2	noun, verb
b. delight	2	noun, verb
c. demand	2	noun, verb
d. diet	3	noun, verb
e. dilute	2	verb, adjective
f. direct	3	adjective, verb, adverb
g. dirty	3	adjective, verb, adverb
h. display	2	verb, noun
i. double	5	adjective, verb, determiner, noun, adverb
j. drop	2	verb, noun

Activity 2

Ask students to find the entries for *delay*, *demand* and *direct* in the Macmillan online dictionary. Tell them to complete the table with the total number of definitions for each entry and the number of the definition for the example sentences. Go through the answers with the whole class.

Key:

Word	Part of speech / Entry	Total number of definitions	Example	
			Sentence	Definition number
delay	(noun)	3	Please excuse my delay in replying.	1
	(verb)	3	His plane had been delayed for five hours.	2
demand	(noun)	3	Demand for organic food is increasing.	3
	(verb)	2	The panel demanded that the report be made public.	1
direct	(adjective)	6	Direct flights from Scotland to North America	1
	(verb)	5	Could you direct me to the bus station?	5
	(adverb)	2	You can buy direct from the manufacturer.	2

VOCABULARY BUILDERS

Follow up activities

Ask students to use the dictionary to find other examples of single words with more than one numbered entry.

Remind students that when searching in the dictionary, they first have to decide which entry to look under, and once they have chosen the entry, they may have to decide between several definitions within that entry.

Ask students to talk about their experience of using the dictionary, what the processes are, and what else they noticed while searching for a piece of information.

Ask students what advice they would give to others learning how to use the dictionary.