

3/19/23

Odd Man Out

Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad; noisemakers

Suitable for visually impaired players

Overview:

In this game, we provide a list of three to five items. All but one have something in common. You have to figure out which item on each list is the **Odd Man Out** – and explain why it doesn't fit in with the others.

For example, if the list contained: *Scarlet, Ecrú, Magenta,* and *Crimson*, the **Odd Man Out** would be *Ecrú*, because it is the only color in the list that is not a shade of red. (Ecrú is off-white.) That example was fairly obvious. Here's one that's a little more difficult: *Lion, Elephant, Tiger,* and *Wolf*. The **Odd Man Out** is *Elephant*, because it is the only animal on the list that is not a carnivore. Here's another hard one: *Juneau, Little Rock, Des Moines,* and *Phoenix*. The **Odd Man Out** is *Des Moines*, because it is the only capital city in the list that is not in a state that begins with the letter A.

This game can be challenging, so it might be a particularly good game to play in teams.

Instructions:

1. Divide the players evenly into teams (or as closely as possible).
2. Read the first list of clues. Discussion is permitted among teammates. Prior to the start of the game, a method to signal when a team is ready to answer must be determined. Ringing bells and New Year's blowers are just two inexpensive noisemakers. Raised hands work, but the host must be vigilant to watch for whose hand went up first. The host always has the final say in any disputes.
3. After a team is recognized as the first to signal, they may give one answer. If the first answer is incorrect, the other teams may 'buzz' in and answer.
4. Keep score (10 points for each answer) after each question is answered correctly.

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Instructions: All but one item in a given list have something in common. You have to figure out which one is the Odd Man Out – and explain why it doesn't fit in with the others. For example, given: *Scarlet, Ecrú, Magenta, and Crimson*, the Odd Man Out is *Ecrú*, because it is the only color in the list that is not a shade of red.

QUESTIONS

1. Emu, Penguin, Ostrich, Owl, Kiwi
2. Shellfish, Popover, Insulin, Eraser, Onion
3. Rupee, Chateau, Drachma, Ruble
4. Peru, Cuba, Sweden, Iraq
5. Crystal, Glenn, Adams, Wayne, Denver
6. Coffee, postcard, tattoo, balloon
7. *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *Cleopatra*, *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?*, *National Velvet*
8. Brussels, Copenhagen, Jamaica, Buenos Aires, Beijing
9. Brioche, Goulash, Naan, Pita, Lavash

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ANSWERS

1. *Owl* is the Odd Man Out. All owls can fly. The other birds in the list are unable to fly.
2. *Popover* is the Odd Man Out. All the other words begin and end with the same two letters in the same order.
3. *Chateau* is the Odd Man Out. It is a French country house. All the others are names of foreign currencies (Rupee/India; Drachma/Greece; Ruble/Russia).
4. *Sweden* is the Odd Man Out. All the other countries' names have four letters.
5. *Crystal* is the Odd Man Out. All the others are last names of famous people with the first name John. (Two famous Crystals are Billy and Bill.)
6. *Postcard* is the Odd Man Out. All the other words have two consecutive double letters.
7. *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?* is the Odd Man Out. It's the only film in the list that did not star Elizabeth Taylor.
8. *Jamaica* is the Odd Man Out. It is a country. The rest are all cities.
9. *Goulash* is the Odd Man Out. It is a Hungarian stew. The others are all kinds of bread.