

4/16/23

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*, *Ecru*, *Magenta*, and *Crimson*, the **Odd Man Out** would be *Ecru*, because it is the only color in the list that is not a shade of red. (Ecru 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. Comma, Fan, Poison Pen, Chain, Scarlet
2. Wild, Sticky, Muddy, Brown, Jasmine
3. Bids, Wrench, Lots, Gavel, Catalog
4. Ho Chi Minh, Pencil, Fu Manchu, Handlebar
5. Oyster, Button, Edamame, Enoki
6. Arrow, Herb, Rock, Beer, Victory
7. Hot, Blush, Shocking, Celadon
8. *Tootsie, The Talented Mr. Ripley, Hairspray, Mrs. Doubtfire*
9. Toaster, Records, Top, Planet Earth, Washing Machine
10. Brazil, Dough, Coco, Square, Chest

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ANSWERS

1. *Comma* is the Odd Man Out. It is a punctuation mark. All the others are types of letters.
2. *Muddy* is the Odd Man Out. All the others are types of rice.
3. *Wrench* is the Odd Man Out. All the rest are terms related to auctions.
4. *Ho Chi Minh* is the Odd Man Out. He led the Democratic Republic of Vietnam from 1945 to 1969. All the others are types of mustaches.
5. *Edamame* is the Odd Man Out. It is a young, edible, soy bean. The rest are types of mushrooms.
6. *Arrow* is the Odd Man Out. All the rest are types of gardens.
7. *Celadon* is the Odd Man Out. It is a shade of green. All the others are shades of pink.
8. *The Talented Mr. Ripley* is the Odd Man Out. It is a movie starring Matt Damon and Jude Law. All the other movies star men playing women.
9. *Toaster* is the Odd Man Out. All of the others are things that spin.
10. *Square* is the Odd Man Out. It can be followed by the word *knot*. All the others can be followed or completed by the word *nut*.