

3/26/23

Word Up!

Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad; noisemakers

Suitable for visually impaired players.

Overview:

In the English language, there are about 25,000 idioms – a word or phrase that has a figurative meaning. For example, when we say, “It’s raining cats and dogs,” we don’t mean it literally; it’s a phrase that by common usage we know means that it’s raining very hard.

In this game, all the idioms end with the word UP. *Bottoms up* to all who do well in this game!

Instructions:

1. This game can be played by individuals or in teams.
2. Read the first definition. 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 player/team is recognized as the first to signal, they may give an answer. If the first answer is incorrect, the other teams may “buzz” in and answer.
4. Scoring: Give 10 points for each correct answer.

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QUESTIONS

1. Eye shadow, mascara, rouge, etc.
2. The person who places second in a contest.
3. To put on your seat belt.
4. To put money away to buy something special.
5. A hand gesture that denotes approval.
6. To compliment or flatter someone with the intention of getting something.
7. A regular, yearly medical exam.
8. An attempt to hide the truth about a serious mistake or crime.
9. To collapse under the strain; to have a nervous breakdown.
10. Tired; exasperated; annoyed with a situation.
11. To stop making an effort and resign yourself to failure.
12. To rob someone at the point of a gun.
13. Conceited; snobbish; self-important.
14. To raise the price.
15. Betty Grable in the 1940s, Farrah Fawcett in the 1970s.

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ANSWERS

1. Makeup
2. Runner-up
3. Buckle up
4. Save up
5. Thumbs up
6. Butter up (*Kiss up and suck up are also acceptable answers.*)
7. Check-up
8. Cover-up
9. Crack up
10. Fed up
11. Give up
12. Hold up (*Stick up is also an acceptable answer.*)
13. Stuck-up
14. Mark up
15. Pin-up