

3/22/26

Rebus Sayings

Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes

Number of players: Unlimited

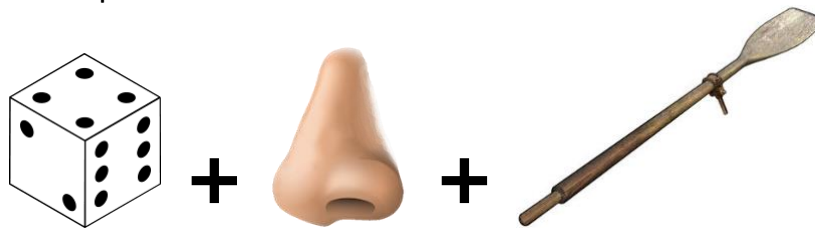
Supplies needed: The page(s) with the rebuses should be either projected on a screen or printed with a copy distributed to each player.

Overview:

Rebuses have been around for hundreds of years. They are visual games that use pictures to represent words or parts of words in a name, phrase, or sentence. For example:



The rebus above is translated as *EYE + LOVE* (Glove minus the G) + *U* — or, *I Love You*. Here's another example:



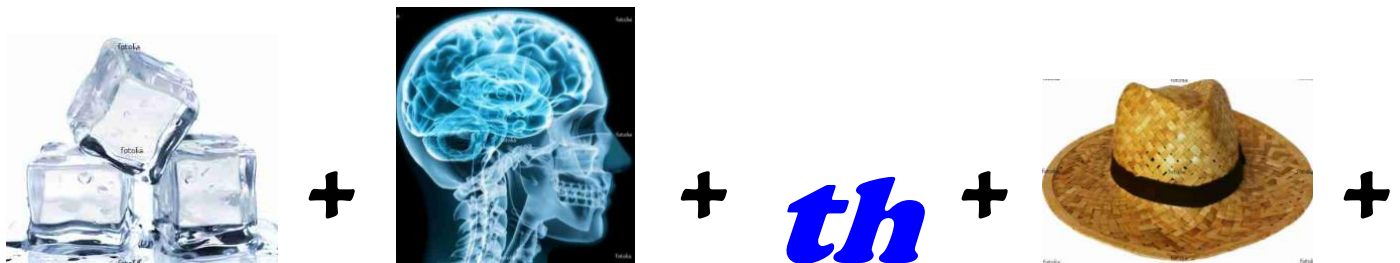
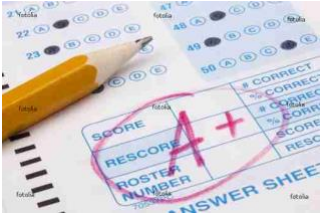
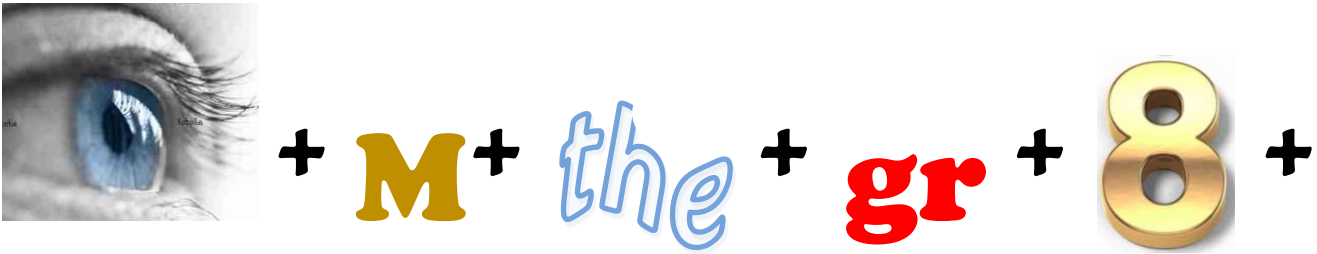
If you sound out the words *DIE + NOSE + OAR*, you get the word *DINOSAUR*.

This challenge contains two sayings – one by Mohammad Ali (on the first page) and the other by John Lennon (on the second page). Can you work them out by adding and subtracting sounds as indicated by the plus and minus signs? *Note: it is usually helpful to say the clues out loud.*

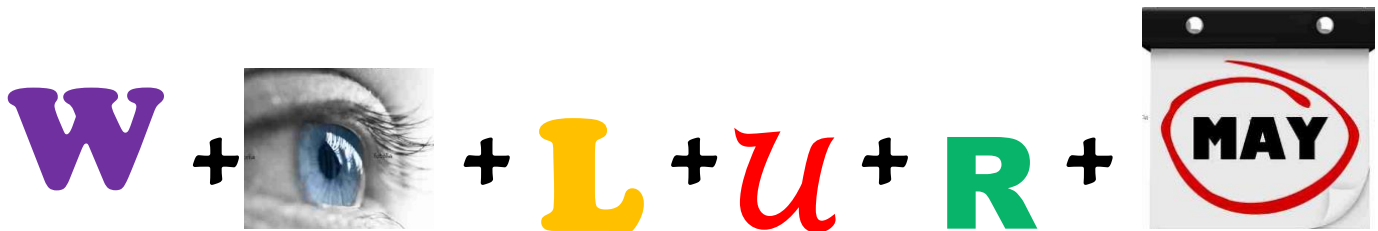
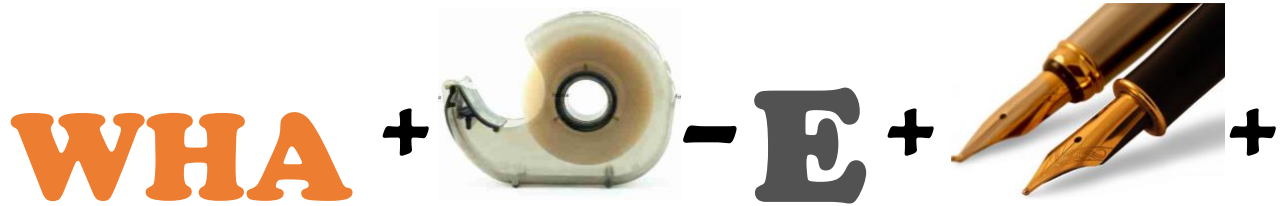
Instructions:

Print (in the best quality printing available to you – color is best, but black and white should work too) the following pages and pass them out to each player. If you want to save on the color printing, two players can share one document.

There's no scoring with this game – just have fun working out each Rebus!



was.



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Rebus Sayings

ANSWERS

1. Eye + M + the + (GR + eight) + test. Ice + head + (th + hat) + E + (fence – CE) +
bee + four + eye + (news – S) + eye + was.

I am the greatest. I said that even before I knew I was.

Muhammad Ali

2. L + eye + (fist –t) + wha + (tape – e) + pens + w + eye + L + U + R + may + king +
(mother – m) (plants – t).

Life is what happens while you are making other plans.

John Lennon