

## How new words are created

**Worksheet A** Try to match each term below with an example?

Word	Way word is formed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• scuba</li> <li>• brunch</li> <li>• exam</li> <li>• racist</li> <li>• ping-pong</li> <li>• igloo</li> <li>• diskette</li> <li>• bungalow</li> <li>• biohazard</li> <li>• brainstorm</li> <li>• to chair</li> <li>• britpop</li> <li>• chocoholic</li> <li>• yuppy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Mixing two words and their meanings together</li> <li>b) Using part of a word</li> <li>c) Forming a word from the letters of a phrase</li> <li>d) Adding a prefix or a suffix</li> <li>e) Changing the way a word is used e.g. noun becomes verb</li> <li>f) Joining two words</li> <li>g) Words made with rhyming pairs</li> <li>h) Taking a word from another language</li> </ul>

Try to think of more examples of each type?

**Worksheet B:** Try to explain what these words mean?

e.g. user-friendly – a machine that is easy or friendly to use.

- **snail-mail**
- **teleshopping**
- **technophobe**
- **coffee-matic**
- **brainstorm**

**Worksheet C:** Here are parts of words made from rhymes. (e.g. snail + mail = snail-mail) Complete the sentences below with the second half of each phrase?

<b>and bustle</b>	<b>beaver</b>	<b>hush</b>
<b>woogie</b>	<b>nilly</b>	<b>weensy</b>
<b>zagging</b>	<b>jeebies</b>	

1. Seeing a spider, even on the TV, always gives me the heebie \_\_\_\_\_
2. She never cleans her room – she just throws everything willy \_\_\_\_\_
3. He's a really keen student – an eager \_\_\_\_\_ if ever I saw one!
4. I do like that old piano music, especially boogie \_\_\_\_\_
5. Are you angry? No? Not even a teensy \_\_\_\_\_ bit?
6. She doesn't like the countryside because she misses the hustle  
\_\_\_\_\_ of the big city
7. The whole affair was very hush \_\_\_\_\_ - no-one knew about it until it was over
8. It doesn't surprise me the police stopped his car – it was zig \_\_\_\_\_ all over the place.

Try to match each phrase from the sentences above with one of the meanings below? Use the context to help you guess.

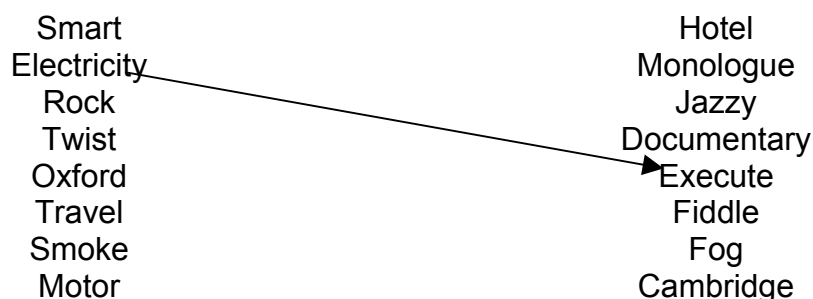
1. kept secret
2. very small
3. very enthusiastic
4. a style of music
5. moving from right to left
6. randomly
7. feelings of disgust and discomfort
8. noise and busy people

**Worksheet D:** Now let's think about words which are made by combining others.

If you have difficulty look at the definition of the new word

1. **electrocute** – kill someone using electricity
2. **travelogue** – a description of a journey
3. **smog** – air pollution in a city
4. **twiddle** – keep moving something with your fingers
5. **Oxbridge** – the two oldest universities in Britain
6. **motel** – a place to stay when travelling by car
7. **snazzy** – very smart and modern
8. **rockumentary** – a television programme about a music band

Below are the original words to help you – can you match them together?



**Worksheet E:** Try to group the words to their original language? There are words from German, Arabic, Spanish and Hindi.

Mirror	Guitar	Zero	Patio
Shampoo	Lunch	Poodle	Tornado
Cot	Jungle	Hamburger	Luck
Rocket	Coffee	Average	Cheetah

German	Arabic	Spanish	Hindi

**Worksheet F:** Now let's look at changing the way we use a word.

Example: Pet (noun) = an animal that lives with us in our home can be used as a verb.

She **pets** that dog too much – he's getting really spoilt!

Try to use one of these nouns as verbs in the sentences below

bookmark	thumb	wall-paper	spoon,
hammer	bottle	bad mouth.	

1. People in Britain worry about drinking tap water, so there is a big market in \_\_\_\_\_ water.
2. Stop that \_\_\_\_\_ing – the noise is driving me crazy!
3. Their car broke down and they had to \_\_\_\_\_ a lift.
4. I'm covered in mess because I've been \_\_\_\_\_ing the bedroom.
5. She's so critical of him behind his back - she's always \_\_\_\_\_ him.
6. He was \_\_\_\_\_ing food into his mouth so quickly that most of it seemed to end up on his shirt.
7. Don't forget to \_\_\_\_\_ this webpage – it seems very useful.

**Worksheet G: Your turn!**

Can you create one new word using each of the processes below?

- **Loaning** – what word from your language could you use in English?
- **Blending** – mix two words together
- **Conversion** – take a noun and make it a verb, or an adjective

Write a definition and an example. Explain your new words to the class.