

AIM

To list things you need for a variety of situations

LANGUAGE

Count and Uncount nouns
Food vocabulary

SKILLS

Writing

MATERIALS

One copy of the cut up worksheet for each pair of students

HOW TO CUSTOMIZE

You can change this worksheet on computer or by hand, using the customizable version. Here are some ideas:

- Write specific situations in boxes on the worksheet, choosing ones that are familiar to your students.

Pre-activity (5 minutes)

- Write the headings *Count nouns* and *Uncount nouns* on the board. Ask students to imagine that they are going to buy their weekly food and to brainstorm items they need.
- As students call out the items, ask them to say which heading they go under, e.g. **Count nouns:** *tomatoes, olives, biscuits*, **Uncount nouns:** *cheese, pasta, sugar*.

Procedure (15 minutes)

- Explain that students are going to race each other to write lists of things they need in different situations.
- Divide the students into pairs and give each pair a copy of the worksheet.
- Choose a situation from below (or one of your own) and write the question on the board, e.g. *What do you need for a picnic?* Students complete the heading in the first box of their worksheet, under *shopping list* then brainstorm words for that same situation under the *Count* or *Uncount* headings, e.g. *sandwiches, fruit, crisps, orange juice*.

Situations

a picnic
your national dish
your favourite meal
a birthday party
a healthy meal
a cake

- Students have three minutes to brainstorm as many ingredients or foods as possible.
- After three minutes shout *Stop!*
- Pairs call out their answers around the class spelling words as they go, and identifying whether they are *Count* or *Uncount* nouns. They receive one point for every answer correctly spelt, correctly categorized as *Count* or *Uncount*, and correct for the situation. Pairs record their totals at the bottom of the box.
- Repeat the procedure for the three other boxes. At the end, students calculate their grand total and the pair with the highest score wins.

Extension (5 minutes)

- In pairs, students think of a new situation and make a list of things they need, both *Count* and *Uncount* nouns, for that situation.
- In groups of four, pairs take it in turns to read out their list of things and the other pair tries to guess the situation.
- Ask students to discuss national/local dishes – are there any differences in the ingredients students use for the same recipes?