

9 Compound nouns with *-ing* forms

Activity A

Which category?

There are many compound nouns in English, and a number of them are made with *-ing* forms, such as *changing room* or *breathing space*. The *-ing* part of the noun often indicates the purpose or the activity which defines the second part. Look at the following compound nouns and put them in the correct category in the table. Check your answers in the dictionary.

Decide which category each compound noun should be put into and write it in the correct column.

eating apple bowling alley draining board baking powder
drinking water boarding school airing cupboard living room
betting shop nursing home icing sugar

food and drink	places in a town	things and rooms you find in a house

Activity B

In this activity, choose the correct *-ing* form to complete the compound noun in each sentence. Then check your answers and look up any unknown words in the dictionary.

- ~~She wasn't at home, so I left a message on the~~ _____ machine.
- We are organizing a _____ party to clean up the river and the park.
- I hate sitting in the doctor's _____ room with everybody coughing and sneezing around me!
- If you get your tickets directly from the _____ office, you don't have to pay any extra fees.
- We don't have a complete plan for the project but let me explain the _____ point.
- Sometimes when Anna is suffering from insomnia, she takes a _____ pill.

sleeping working booking starting waiting answering