

1 Blended or portmanteau words

Activity A

Blended or portmanteau words are new words created by combining two existing words. Match each of the words below with a definition.

bromance chillax edutainment frenemy greenwash
guesstimate hangry sitcom staycation workaholic

- 1 an attempt to calculate something that is based more on guessing than on information _____
- 2 to relax and stop feeling angry or worried _____
- 3 a regular comedy programme on TV that shows the same characters in different funny situations _____
- 4 a person or organization that you are friends with because it is useful or necessary to be their friend, even though you really dislike or disagree with them _____
- 5 computer software, TV programmes and books that both teach something and are fun _____
- 6 activities by a company or an organization that are intended to make people think that it is concerned about the environment, even if its real business actually harms the environment _____
- 7 angry or in a bad mood because you are hungry _____
- 8 a very close friendship between two men _____
- 9 a person who works very hard and finds it difficult to stop working and do other things _____
- 10 a holiday that you spend at or near your home _____

Activity B

Discuss the questions with a partner.

- 1 What standard words do you think have been combined to form each of the words in A?
- 2 Do you use any portmanteau words in your language? If so, tell your partner about three of them.

Activity C

Complete each sentence with a word from A.

- 1 The internet giant has long been a _____ to the businesses that sell goods on its site: they may not like it but they can't afford not to do business with it.
- 2 The theatre group describes its productions for schools as _____, as they aim to make children think about deep topics as well as being great fun to watch.
- 3 As a _____, I'd say the company has around 10,000 employees worldwide.
- 4 My sister's a complete _____—she gets to the office an hour before everyone else, and she doesn't get home till about nine.
- 5 Environmentalists claim the government's new limits on fishing will have no beneficial effect on marine life, and are in fact just _____.
- 6 The _____ between their husbands was starting to annoy Bev and Tina—the men spent most of their free time together.
- 7 It was 10 o'clock at night and I'd been working for 14 hours solid—I was tired and very _____.
- 8 There are lots of things you can do at home on a _____ that you can't do on an expensive trip abroad.
- 9 *Dad's Army* was a popular and very funny _____ set in the Second World War, which featured a group of veteran soldiers.
- 10 I work really hard during the week, so at the weekend I just like to _____.