

Working with Words



Purpose of Activity

This activity is designed to familiarize students with words in the “You’d Be Surprised” currency videos that they may not have seen before. By researching the vocabulary words and reviewing them before the video is shown, the students will have a better understanding of the content presented.

Concepts taught: understanding words, vocabulary, definitions, using a dictionary, using a thesaurus, parts of speech, synonyms, antonyms, sentence writing

Materials Needed

- A list of vocabulary words and definitions from one of the “You’d Be Surprised” videos
- The “Working with Words” worksheets
- Dictionaries
- Thesauruses
- You’d Be Surprised: Special Features video and/or the You’d Be Surprised: The Journey video uscurrency.gov/videos

Instructions

- 1 Provide each student with a copy of the vocabulary list and a “Working with Words” worksheet.
- 2 Each student will be assigned a word from the list. They will use the dictionaries and thesauruses to learn about their word and will fill in the shapes on their worksheet. The students will find the part of speech of the word, its definition (which can be pulled from the vocabulary list), how to use it in a sentence, synonyms and antonyms, and will draw a picture or cartoon of the word.
- 3 Ask each student to present their word to the class, so the students can learn about each vocabulary word. While the presenters speak, ask the other students to take notes on their vocabulary list.
- 4 Show the video(s) to the students to reinforce the vocabulary they have learned.

Level of Learning

Level One: You can reduce the number of sections that the students need to complete or specifically choose words that are a little bit easier to describe.

Level Two: Follow the activity as written above.

Level Three: Allow the students to research several words that they are interested in from the currency video. You may also allow them to do further research on the topic or word they chose.





Working with Words

Fill in the sections below with information about your word.

My Word

Part of Speech

A Sentence

2 Synonyms

2 Antonyms

Name: _____

Definition

A Picture