

US Vocabulary

Part A

Task 1: Vocabulary Matching Game:

Cut out the cards on the next page and work in a group to match the words with the definitions

Task 2: Vocabulary Pairs Game:

Once you've finished, shuffle all the cards up and deal out all the cards to the players. The aim of the game is to collect as many matching pairs of cards (a word and its definition) as possible. Choose a player to start first. They place any matching pairs in a pile in front of them. If they don't have a pair, they pick a card (unseen) from any player they wish and if they now have a matching pair, they place that down.

The turn then passes to the player to their left, who does the same. If at any point, a player has no cards in their hand, they just continue playing by picking a card from another player on each of their turns. The game continues until the end of the session. The winner is the person with the most paired cards placed down in front of them.

US Vocabulary

Part A

Task 1: Vocabulary Matching Game:

Cut out the cards on the next page and work in a group to match the words with the definitions

Task 2: Vocabulary Pairs Game:

Once you've finished, shuffle all the cards up and deal out all the cards to the players. The aim of the game is to collect as many matching pairs of cards (a word and its definition) as possible. Choose a player to start first. They place any matching pairs in a pile in front of them. If they don't have a pair, they pick a card (unseen) from any player they wish and if they now have a matching pair, they place that down.

The turn then passes to the player to their left, who does the same. If at any point, a player has no cards in their hand, they just continue playing by picking a card from another player on each of their turns. The game continues until the end of the session. The winner is the person with the most paired cards placed down in front of them.

US Vocabulary

Part B

In the vocabulary list and the book, Connecticut and some characters from Star Wars are referred to. You have two choices for this task:

1. Find a list of US States and their capitals and choose five of them (ones with the most difficult or unusual spellings or just states/capitals that you're most interested in). Research a set of facts about each of the states, including neighbouring states, major cities, population, history – making notes as you go along. Now create a short fact file for each of the five states. Remember, this should be in your own words.
2. Find a list of Star Wars characters and choose five of them (little known ones or ones with interesting or unusual names – don't choose the main characters). Research a set of facts about each one, including the film they appeared in, their back-story, which side they're on, little-known facts – making notes as you go along. Now create a short fact file for each of your five characters. Remember, this should be in your own words.

Challenge Task

In the vocabulary list and the book, several US foods such as graham and saltine crackers are referred to. Research US foods that we might not have in the UK - these can be traditional dishes, common US foods or branded products. Choose a selection of 5-10 and create a short glossary that explains to a UK reader what these foods are (and if there are any British cuisine equivalents).

**'A Train
Service' (on
the A track)
in American
cities –
particularly
one in
New York.**

'A' train

fringe (hair)

bangs

a blackboard

a chalkboard

**A piece
of science
equipment
in secondary
schools for
heating
liquids.**

**bunsen
burner**

A condition where a person has a split in their palate (top part of the mouth), usually from birth.

cleft palate

A state on the eastern coast of the USA.

Connecticut

Brilliant!

cool beans

A public transport route that goes across town.

cross town



**The name
of the
Star Wars'
Emperor
before he
became
Emperor.**

**Darth
Sideous**

**Delicatessen
- a food
shop selling
(usually
expensive)
foods such as
cheeses and
cured meats.**

deli

**A person who
is difficult
to please
and thinks
a lot of
themselves.
Usually used
as an insult.**

diva

**Someone
who's not
'cool'.
Always used
as an insult.**

dork



**A slang word
for a man
– usually a
'cool' man or
friend.**

dude

**A class a
student is
allowed
to choose
outside their
required
classes.**

elective

**An
exclamation
to show
surprise.**

geez

**A thin
cracker
biscuit. A bit
like a thin
digestive
biscuit.**

**graham
crackers**

**jack-o'-
lantern**

**mac and
cheese**

**pumpkin
lantern**

**macaroni
cheese**

homeroom

jerk

**class base in
secondary
school**

**A foolish
person -
always used
as an insult.**

plaque

A tablet of metal, wood or stone usually fixed onto a wall, with an important saying or memorial on it.

Padawan

A trainee Jedi knight (from Star Wars).

precept

A general rule to live one's life to (a principle).

pocketbook

a wallet

recess

principal

school break

head teacher

sneakers

wookie

trainers

**Bear-like
creature from
the Star Wars
films.**

**A dry, salty
cracker (like
a salty cream
cracker).**

**saltine
cracker**

pavement

sidewalk

