

Make and do pelmanism and snap card games

Instructions for teachers

Choose the most suitable cards for your class, maybe from two different levels below and preferably with a similar number of “do” cards and “make” cards. You could also add more to the blank cards. Photocopy and cut up one set per group of two to four students.

To play pelmanism, students spread the cards face down across the table and take turns trying to find two cards which take the same verb. If the two cards that they take are both do cards or both make cards, they can take them and score two points. If they have taken one do card and one make card, they have to put them back face down in the same places. Play then passes to the next person. The winner is the person with most cards at the end of the game.

Snap is a faster game that can be played with the same cards. Students deal out all the cards but don't look at their cards. Students take turns putting their top card face down on the table and race to be the first to shout “Snap!” when the last two cards take the same verb. If they are right, they can take all the cards that have been put on the table. If they shout “Snap!” when the last two cards are one do card and one make card, they have to give one card to each other play, and the game continues.

Before, between or after the games, students can work together to put all the cards into two columns by which verb they take, perhaps also putting similar expressions together such as grouping together all the housework.

Cards to cut up/ Suggested answers
Level 1

do	make
(some) homework/ an assignment	a cup of tea
judo	some coffee/ a cup of coffee
karate	a mistake
overtime	a call/ a phone call
nothing	a sandwich
the cleaning	a speech
the dishes/ the washing up	an omelette
the ironing	breakfast
the laundry/ the washing	lunch
the shopping	dinner
well/ well in...	homemade jam/ homemade...

Level 2

do	make
a bad job	a complaint
a course	a decision
a good job	a joke
aerobics	a list
badly/ badly in...	a promise
good	a reservation/ a booking
(some/ the) housework	a suggestion
martial arts	an arrangement
something	an offer
your best	friends
a job	sense/ no sense
what you can	sure
your make up	your bed/ the bed

Level 3

do	make
a degree	a choice
a terrible job	a good impression
a great job/ a wonderful job	a noise/ a sound
the hoovering/ the vacuuming	a prediction
a PhD/ a doctorate	a profit
a Master's degree/ an MA/ an MBA	a success of
research/ some research	an effort
weight training	an excuse
your chores	money/ some money
your nails	plans
body building	progress
	the right choice
	up your mind
	your own jam/ your own...

Level 4

do	make
a postgraduate degree	a bet
harm/ some harm	a comment
some work on...	a date
someone a favour/ a big favour	a demand
business with...	a difference (in your world/ in...)
something for a living	a discovery
the accounts/ the books	a fortune
the right thing	a living
the dusting	a loss
up your shoe laces/ up your seatbelt/ up...	a mess/ a mess of...
without your usual.../ without...	an attempt
	fun of
	someone redundant
	the most of the time available/ the most of...

Level 5

do	make
away with...	a confession
over (and start again)	a fuss
the dirty on...	a killing
the absolute minimum	a move (on...)
up	a pass at...
your hair (and make up)	a point
	an appearance
	an observation
	my day
	myself clear/ my meaning clear
	off with my wallet/ off with...
	the best of a bad job
	up for lost time/ up for...
	war