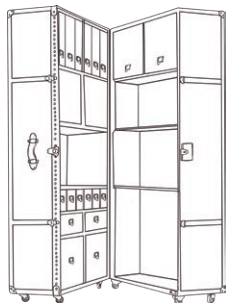


Portmanteau Words - An eVitation to Reconnoitre Evolving English

In this activity, you will be learning about portmanteau words. An example of a portmanteau word being used in Wonder is on page 67, when Mom mentions 'evites'.



English is one of the most versatile and malleable (look it up) languages in the world. It's a language that has influenced and come under the influence of many other languages over the years, usually through invasion or colonisation (look it up!).

And English is still changing. Technology and slang influence English vocabulary so that the language is constantly evolving (look it up!).

Part A

Find synonyms for these words:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Reconnoitre | |
| Malleable | |
| Colonisation | |
| Evolving | |
| Portmanteau | |

Now read the page again from the top.

One way that new words evolve is by mixing parts of two different words to make a new combined word. These are called portmanteau words (but you already know that!).

Work in a group to match up the **Portmanteau Word cards**, the original word cards and the meanings. You should have sets of four cards. Check your answers with another group and then check the answer sheet.

Can you find any more examples of portmanteau words?

Part B

In this activity, you will be learning about slang portmanteau words. An example of a portmanteau word being used in Wonder is on page 67, when Mom mentions 'evites'.

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Can you match the meanings of these slang portmanteau words? For the blanks in the meaning column, fill in your own meaning. Can you work out what words make up the portmanteau?

| Meaning |
|--|
| |
| Laying your clothes across a chair at bedtime. |
| |
| |
| Lying in bed, surfing the web. |
| A big sneeze |
| Food that tastes like another. |
| Talking about nothing in particular. |
| Something that I already know. |
| Brilliant new word. |
| Just thinking about yourself. |

| Portmanteau | Words |
|--------------|---------------------|
| cellfish | cellphone & selfish |
| chairdrobe | |
| dudevorce | |
| floordrobe | |
| internest | |
| juggersnot | |
| nomonym | |
| nonversation | |
| unlightening | |
| worderful | |
| youniverse | |

Challenge Task

Research the portmanteau words that match these definitions:

| Definition | Portmanteau |
|---|-------------|
| A mid-morning meal | |
| Take it easy! | |
| Gaining finance for a business venture from lots of people via the Internet | |
| A piece of music you can't get out of your head. | |
| Spending time under canvas, comfortably. | |
| Give a very rough idea of how much something will cost. | |
| A funny TV programme | |
| Remaining at home whilst on holiday. | |
| Instalment of a TV show that you watch on the Internet. | |