

Brainstorming in groups longer phrases card games

Instructions for teachers

*Cut up one set of cards per group of two to four students, with the middle cards in **bold** in different packs.*

*Students work together to put together just the left-hand and right-hand columns (the ones not in bold) to make basic phrases, add the middle ones (in **bold**) to check and extend their answers, then try to put them into categories by the stage of brainstorming that they would be used in. Students can look under the fold below for hints if they get stuck.*

After checking their answers, students can test each other by reading out the long versions for their partner(s) to remember the short versions of, then read out the short versions for their partner to remember the long versions of. They can also help their partner come up with as many phrases as they can for one of the categories.

Students can then deal out the cards and try to use the words they are given during a group brainstorm, e.g. brainstorming things to mention in a presentation.

Brainstorming phrases can be done before, after or between the activities above.

Optional help for students

Suggested stages of brainstorming

- Initial brainstorming/ Asking for ideas
- Organising the ideas/ Putting the ideas into order/ Putting the ideas into categories
- Editing down the ideas/ Choosing the best ideas/ Getting rid of weak ideas
- Supporting your arguments
- Anticipating other people's doubts and arguments

Cards to cut up/ Suggested answers

Initial brainstorming/ Asking for ideas

Can we write anything	else	here?
Any	more	ideas?
I think we need three	or four	more ideas.
Let's just write	all/ all of	our ideas down and discuss them later.
That probably doesn't fit, but let's write it	down	anyway.

Organising the ideas/ Putting the ideas into order/ Putting the ideas into categories

I think these two are linked	to each other	by...
We can put these	ones/ two	together because...
(I think) these (two) are	very	similar because...
Maybe we should move this one	over	here.
(I think) these (two) are	closely	related.
(I think) these (two) are	both/ all	kinds of...
Another	good	example of that is...

Editing down the ideas/ Choosing the best ideas/ Getting rid of weak ideas

I'd	probably	choose this one because...
This one doesn't (seem to) link to	any of	the others.
These two are	a bit/ far/ much	too similar.
(I think) we should cross this	one	off because...
This one doesn't make	much	sense.
This one doesn't	really	match our aim.
The audience	probably/ might/ almost certainly	already know this.
This won't interest	most of the	audience.

Supporting your arguments

In my	personal	experience,...
According to a book	that/ which	I read...

Anticipating other people's doubts and arguments

If they are not convinced	by that idea	, we can/ should say that...
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Easier to cut up version

Can we write anything	else	here?
Any	more	ideas?
I think we need three	or four	more ideas.
Let's just write	all/ all of	our ideas down and discuss them later.
That probably doesn't fit, but let's write it	down	anyway.
I think these two are linked	to each other	by...
We can put these	ones/ two	together because...
(I think) these (two) are	very	similar because...
Maybe we should move this one	over	here.
(I think) these (two) are	closely	related.
(I think) these (two) are	both/ all	kinds of...
Another	good	example of that is...

I'd	probably	choose this one because...
This one doesn't (seem to) link to	any of	the others.
These two are	a bit/ far/ much	too similar.
(I think) we should cross this	one	off because...
This one doesn't make	much	sense.
This one doesn't	really	match our aim.
The audience	probably/ might/ almost certainly	already know this.
This won't interest	most of the	audience.
In my	personal	experience,...
According to a book	that/ which	I read...
If they are not convinced	by that idea	, we can/ should say that...

Brainstorming brainstorming phrases

First of all without any help, write as many suitable phrases as you can in each gap below.

Initial brainstorming/ Asking for ideas

Organising the ideas/ Putting the ideas into order/ Putting the ideas into categories

Editing down the ideas/ Choosing the best ideas/ Getting rid of weak ideas

Supporting your arguments

Anticipating other people's doubts and arguments

Use just the middle cards to help, use the other cards to help, then compare with an un-cut-up copy of the worksheet. Many other phrases not on the worksheet are possible, so please check if you wrote something different.