50 Scatter Sheets

ESL activities and discussion questions to warm up the class, introduce a theme, activate vocabulary and improve fluency.

FROM ESLGAMESBOX

Sample
50 Scatter Sheets

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3. Websites
4. Information Technology
5. Jobs
6. In the Office
7. Stationery
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10. Meetings and Presentations
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46. Musical Instruments
47. Fruit and Vegetables
48. Drinks
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50. At the Restaurant

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About this book

The Scatter Sheets in this book are designed to be used as warm up and theme introduction exercises. They can be used as a quick vocabulary review and fluency exercise or the follow-up questions can be used to underpin a longer and deeper lesson. The core skills practiced are fluency and vocabulary activation therefore they are unsuitable for beginner level classes.

How to use Scatter Sheets

Scatter Sheets are designed to be used as a vocabulary activation exercise. If the vocabulary on the worksheet is totally unfamiliar to the majority of the students then the activity will only cause confusion. If you want to use the Scatter Sheets in this situation, then present the vocabulary items individually to the class before moving on to the describing phase.

Of course there will often be leftover words which are unknown to the whole class and it’s the teacher’s job to go through these at the end of the exercise.

Give each student a copy of the chosen sheet and give them a few minutes to look at the vocabulary with their neighbour or with a dictionary to see how many words are familiar. Make sure to keep this part short.

Explain that you are going to define a word from the Scatter Sheet and the students must identify it. Describe a word any way you want, for example *it's a type of bird, it hunts at night, there's one in Harry Potter.* If the student’s recognise the word *Owl* then they can signal it by shouting out the answer or putting their hand up. If the answer’s correct get the students to circle the word *Owl* on their sheets.

Run through the first few examples with stronger students in order to shape some nice example sentences, keep these examples on the board as sentence models.

Students now take it in turns to go through the Scatter Sheet choosing a word which they are comfortable with and describing it to the class. Each word in turn is described and circled until the final words on the sheet are left for the teacher to define.

Extra Questions

Each Scatter Sheet also has an accompanying sheet of extra exercises. The first section is made up of five relatively simple gap fill sentences to further cement the acquisition of some of the lexical items used. The varied grammatical form of these gap-fill sentences could also be used to trigger interesting avenues of grammar or lexical exploration.

This section is followed by three discussion questions which can be done in pairs, groups or together as a class. Listen carefully during this phase, feed in vocabulary where needed and make notes of interesting output that can be expanded on after the discussion phase.
1. The Family

- aunt
- brother
- cousin
- daughter
- father
- grandchildren
- grandmother
- mother
- niece
- sister
- son
- stepmother
- uncle
- wife
- husband
- mother-in-law
- brother-in-law
- great-grandfather
- half-sister
1. Complete the sentences:

a) My brother’s daughter is my ____________.

b) My wife’s father is my ____________.

c) My children’s children are my ____________.

d) My father’s sister is my ____________.

e) My uncle’s children are my ____________.

2. Discussion questions

a) Who are the youngest and oldest people in your family?

b) Does your family get together often? Do you get on well together?

c) Is family important?
2. On the Internet

- browser
- scrollbar
- window
- search engine
- checkbox
- form
- field
- tab
- bookmark
- the cloud
- blog
- mobile site
- stream
- e-mail
- podcast
- social network
- URL
- homepage
- comment
- link
2. **On the Internet**

1. Complete the sentences:

   a) Facebook, Twitter and Google Plus are all ________________.

   b) A __________________ is like a radio show on the internet.

   c) *What's the ___________?* is another way of asking *what's the web address?*

   d) If you want to save a webpage to read later you can ________________ it.

   e) One way to backup your files is to save them in ________________.

2. Discussion questions

   a) Are you happy to store important information in the cloud?

   b) Do you listen to any podcasts?

   c) Are you a member of any social networks?
3. Websites

- YouTube
- Twitter
- Yahoo
- Facebook
- Google
- Flickr
- Amazon
- eBay
- PayPal
- Wikipedia
- Bing
- Tumblr
- Pinterest
- Reddit
- Blogger
- Baidu
- Instagram
- Wordpress
- Netflix
- Craigslist

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3. **Websites**

1. Complete the sentences:

   a) __________ is an online auction site.

   b) __________ is a good source of information on almost anything.

   c) __________ is the most popular social network in the world.

   d) __________ is a rival to Google’s search engine.

   e) __________ is a popular online payment system.

2. Discussion questions

   a) Which websites do you spend the most time on?

   b) Do you buy much online? Which sites do you use?

   c) Have you ever had a blog? Which blogs do you follow?
4. Information Technology

1. Complete the sentences:

   a) To physically connect one piece of hardware with another, you will need the right _______.

   b) *Arial*, *Georgia* and *Verdana* are all types of _______.

   c) To connect a new piece of hardware to your computer, you often need to install the right _______.

   d) Unwanted, unimportant e-mail is often called _______.

   e) If you have too many programs running, your computer might _______.

2. Discussion questions

   a) What’s your homepage?

   b) Can you remember the first computer you owned or used?

   c) What do you find frustrating about using computers?
5. Jobs

- Lawyer
- Software Developer
- Politician
- Estate Agent
- Travel Agent
- Scientist
- Vet
- Nurse
- Doctor
- Accountant
- Lecturer
- Actor
- Entrepreneur
- Graphic Designer
- Social Worker
- Receptionist
- Journalist
- Illustrator
- Plumber
- Decorator
5. Jobs

1. Complete the sentences:
   a) A _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ is someone who paints your house.

   b) A person who starts new businesses is called an _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

   c) An _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _’s drawings are often used in books and magazines.

   d) You could go to a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ if you want to book a holiday.

   e) A _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ looks after sick animals.

2. Discussion questions
   a) What was your first job?

   b) What do you like/dislike about your job?

   c) What job would you really like to have?
6. In the Office

clock

monitor

laptop

printer

whiteboard

meeting

presentation

canteen

coffee break

lift

reception

calendar

photocopier

filing cabinet

office draw

fax machine

wastepaper basket

shredder

open-plan

boss

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6. In the Office

1. Complete the sentences:

a) Confidential documents should be disposed of with a __________. 

b) Hard copies of customer records are often kept in a __________. 

c) If you don't want to take the stairs, you can use the __________. 

d) Some companies still use a __________ to send documents. 

e) Office workers often keep their belongings in their __________. 

2. Discussion questions

a) Would you rather work in an open plan office or have your own office? 

b) Have you ever worked in an office? Did you like it? 

c) Is there a lot of paperwork in your current or last job?
7. Stationery

- stapler
- envelope
- diary
- calendar
- folder
- hole punch
- pencil
- paperclip
- shredder
- stamp
- scissors
- glue
- drawing pin
- sticky tape
- rubber band
- post-it note
- notebook
- ruler
- clipboard
- eraser
7. Stationery

1. Complete the sentences:

a) Use a pair of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ if you want to cut something out.

b) If you’re going to send a letter, you’ll need to put a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ on the envelope.

c) You can use a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to attach one document to another.

d) If you want to draw a straight line, use a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

e) People often use a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to remind themselves to do something.

2. Discussion questions

a) Do you carry a notebook? What do you write in it?

b) What do you use to keep track of your appointments?

c) Would you describe yourself or your workplace as well organised?
8. In the Lab

test tube
scientist
experiment
result
invention
calculation
physicist
biologist
chemistry
acid
equipment
gravity
equation
cell
microscope
clone
specimen
goggles
ventilator
fire extinguisher
1. Complete the sentences:

a) ____________ is a force that attracts objects to each other.

b) If you are working with dangerous substances, you should wear ____________.

c) $E = mc^2$ is Einstein’s most famous ____________.

d) ____________ is the opposite of alkaline.

e) A ____________ is a device that freshens the air in a room.

2. Discussion questions

a) What do you think are the most important inventions of the last ten years?

b) What life-changing inventions or discoveries might be made in the next ten?

c) What scientists or scientific discoveries come from your country?
9. Brands

Google
BMW
Ferrari
Coca Cola
Samsung
Apple
Pepsi
McDonalds
Disney
Sony
Toyota
Mercedes
Gillette
Yves Saint Laurent
Nescafe
Budweiser
L’Oreal
Ikea
Nike
Levis

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1. Complete the sentences:

a) ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ is famous for it’s shaving products.

b) ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ is well known for it’s flat-pack furniture.

c) ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ has several large amusement parks around the world.

d) ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ and ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ are great rivals in the soft drinks market.

e) ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ is famous for it’s denim clothing.

2. Discussion questions

a) Which brands do you use the most?

b) Do you prefer branded food products to supermarket’s own label products?

c) What do you think are high-status brands?
10. Meetings and Presentations

slide
presenter
attendees
agenda
the minutes
chairperson
demonstration
report
chart
projector
powerpoint
discussion
argument
negotiation
deal
speech
prototype
flipchart
vote
confidential

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10. Meetings and Presentations

1. Complete the sentences:

a) __________ is another word for secret.

b) If all sides agree they may shake hands and make a __________.

c) The people who are present at a meeting are the __________.

d) Keeping a record of what is said in a meeting is called taking __________.

e) A __________ is a diagram which shows information.

2. Discussion questions

a) How often do you attend meetings? What percentage are a waste of time?

b) What do you do if you get bored in a long meeting?

c) Public speaking is one of people’s greatest fears. Is it one of yours?
11. Law and Order

police

judge
court

lawyer

defendant

case

prison

sentence

guilty

innocent

jury

under arrest

witness

trial

bail

suspect

alibi

crime

charge

evidence
1. Complete the sentences:

a) The place where cases are heard is called a _________________.

b) The person in charge of the court is the _________________.

c) A ________________ is a person who saw a crime take place.

d) ________________ is produced in court to prove whether the defendant is guilty or innocent.

e) If the defendant is found guilty, they may get a long ________________ sentence.

2. Discussion questions

a) Have you ever been to court?

b) If you had the power to make something illegal, what would it be?

c) Is it sometimes ok to break a law?
12. Crime and Punishment

- murder
- assault
- mugger
- robbery
- death penalty
- a fine
- shoplifter
- thief
- pickpocket
- arson
- blackmail
- fraud
- vandalism
- burglar
- drug dealer
- victim
- kidnapping
- counterfeiter
- identity theft
12. Crime and Punishment

1. Complete the sentences:

a) If you are caught speeding, you may have to pay _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

b) Somebody who makes copies of products or money is a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

c) A person who breaks into a house to steal things is called a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

d) In some states of the USA the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ is carried out by electric chair or lethal injection.

e) _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ is when someone pretends to be another person.

2. Discussion questions

a) Have you ever had anything stolen?

b) Do you think graffiti is vandalism or art?

c) What would you do if you saw someone being mugged?
13. **Money**

- wallet
- purse
- banknote
- coin
- credit card
- gift voucher
- change
- bills
- receipt
- currency
- bank account
- cash machine / ATM
- debt
- interest
- loan
- mortgage
- wages
- profit
- deposit
- poor
- valuable
1. Complete the sentences:

a) _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ are paid by your employer in exchange for your work.

b) The dollar is the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of the USA

c) If you keep your money in a savings account you will receive _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

d) Instead of money, you might get a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ for your birthday.

e) If you want to rent an apartment you have to put down a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ first.

2. Discussion questions

a) How much money are you carrying at the moment?

b) If you had $100,000 would you put it in a savings account or invest it somewhere else?

c) Do you think people will still use coins and banknotes in 20 years?
14. At the Zoo

- giraffe
- monkey
- crocodile
- snake
- tortoise
- lion
- tiger
- rhinoceros
- elephant
- hippopotamus
- wolf
- eagle
- owl
- seal
- cheetah
- penguin
- flamingo
- bear
- zebra
14. At the Zoo

1. Complete the sentences:

a) A ____________ has a very long neck.

b) A ____________ is a flightless bird which lives in Antarctica.

c) An ____________ is a bird which hunts at night.

d) A ____________ is the fastest animal on land.

e) A ____________ has black and white stripes.

2. Discussion questions

a) Does your country have an animal as a national symbol?

b) Do you think animals should be kept in zoos?

c) What’s your favourite animal?
15. The Countryside

- river
- autumn
- clouds
- landscape
- view
- hills
- stream
- bush
- reflection
- forest
- field
- lake
- path
- wildlife
- birdsong
- sunset
- dawn
- mist
- rainbow
- sheep
15. The Countryside

1. Complete the sentences:

a) ___________ and ___________ could both be described as white and fluffy.

b) You might see a ___________ when it stops raining and the sun comes out.

c) At the end of the day you might see a beautiful ___________.

d) You can have a great ___________ from the top of a hill or mountain.

e) Animals, birds, plants and flowers are all examples of an area’s ___________.

2. Discussion questions

a) Can you remember an amazing view you have seen.

b) Do you have a favourite plant or flower?

c) Do you prefer to go for walks in the town or the country?
Answer Key

1 a) niece, b) father in law, c) grandchildren, d) aunt, e) cousins
2 a) social networks, b) podcast, c) URL, d) bookmark, e) the cloud
3 a) eBay, b) Wikipedia, c) Facebook, d) Bing, PayPal
4 a) cable, b) font, c) driver, d) spam, e) crash
5 a) decorator, b) entrepreneur, c) illustrator, d) travel agent, e) vet
6 a) shredder, b) filing cabinet, c) open plan, d) fax machine, e) office draw
7 a) scissors, b) stamp, c) stapler / paperclip, d) ruler, e) post it note
8 a) gravity, b) safety goggles, c) equation, d) acid, e) ventilator
9 a) Gillette, b) Ikee, c) Disney, d) Coca Cola & Pepsi, e) Levi's
10 a) confidential, b) deal, c) attendees, d) the minutes, e) chart
11 a) court, b) judge, c) witness, d) evidence, e) prison
12 a) fine, b) counterfeiter, c) burglar, d) death penalty, e) identity theft
13 a) wages, b) currency, c) interest, d) gift voucher, e) deposit
14 a) giraffe, b) penguin, c) owl, d) cheetah, e) zebra
15 a) sheep & clouds, b) rainbow, c) sunset, d) view, e) wildlife
16 a) submarine, b) lighthouse, c) tanker, d) shark, e) harbour
17 a) parachute, b) missile, c) frisbee, d) planets, e) helicopter
18 a) motorbike, b) jet ski, c) ferry, d) tank, e) sledge
19 a) rear view mirror, b) reverse, c) accelerator, d) speedometer, e) indicator
20 a) accommodation, b) passport, c) customs, d) reservation, e) hike
21 a) India, b) Scotland, c) Canada, d) Germany, e) Brazil
22 a) conditioner, b) razor, c) deodorant, d) towel, e) plug
23 a) microwave, b) teaspoon, c) kettle, d) blender, e) oven glove
24 a) clothes, b) make-up, c) slippers, d) curtains, e) pillow
25 a) kite, b) axe, c) wheelbarrow, d) freezer, e) ladder
26 a) greenhouse, b) spade, c) weeds, d) path, e) squirrel
27 a) sprint, b) tennis, c) Monopoly, d) pool, e) chess
28 a) treadmill, b) trampolining, c) weight lifting, d) gym, e) boxing
29 a) DIY, b) drawing, c) pottery, d) calligraphy, e) gardening
30 a) cocktail, b) art gallery, c) casino, d) bowling, e) karaoke
31 a) queue, b) receipt, c) dairy product, d) special offer, e) out of stock
32 a) Jeweller, b) DIY store, c) florist, d) tailor, e) butcher
33 a) post box, b) bridge, c) pedestrians, d) traffic warden, e) road sign
34 a) stocking, b) carol, c) Boxing Day, d) candle, e) sleigh
35 a) Yuri Gagarin, b) Pele, c) Paul McCartney, d) Bob Marley, e) Marilyn Monroe
36 a) housewarming, b) stag night, c) engagement, d) Ramadan, e) retirement
37 a) safety goggles, b) sandpaper, c) glue, d) drill, e) hammer
38 a) balloon, b) toy farm, c) walkie talkies, d) teddy bear, e) rubber duck
39 a) shirt, b) suit, c) pyjamas, d) blouse, e) belt
40 a) bracelet, b) tie, c) umbrella, d) purse, belt, e) gloves
41 a) volume, b) keyboard, c) chorus, d) classical, e) tune up
42 a) director, b) plot, c) review, d) documentary, e) trailer
43 a) editor, b) advertising, c) quote, d) interview, e) headline
44 a) assassination, b) unemployment, c) discovery, d) riot, e) election
45 a) dictionary, b) comic book, c) library, d) index, e) non-fiction
46 a) drum, b) piano, c) violin, d) accordion, e) double bass
47 a) lettuce, b) mushrooms, c) grapefruit, d) peas, e) cherries
48 a) tea, b) yoghurt, c) champagne, d) cocktail, e) whisky
49 a) popcorn, b) hot dog, c) ice cream, d) quiche, e) doughnut
50 a) napkin, b) dessert, c) cutlery, d) tip, e) bill