

Cambridge Learner's Dictionary



Teacher's notes

Aims: to help students use the dictionary to learn associated words, especially when preparing for examinations like FCE, where this is tested
Skill: using the Cambridge Learner's Electronic Dictionary for independent language development
Level: Pre-intermediate and Intermediate

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Write the word 'manage' on the board and the two example sentences below.
 The of the company decided to make changes in the staff.
 The dog was so badly trained it was
- Explain that the missing words are built from the word 'manage'. Ask students to try to fill in the gaps with the correct word.
- Write the answers into the gaps in the sentence. Ask the students what types of words the answers are (management is a noun and unmanageable is an adjective).

How to use the Word Building function

- Select the word you want, and look in the *definitions window* to see if there is a **Word Building** button. Please note that some words do not have this option.
- Click the **Word Building** button to open the Word Building window.
- Click on the word links to open a new, small window with the meanings, examples and audio files for the selected word.

2. Class activity (15 minutes)

- Hand out the example worksheet. If possible, display the Cambridge Learner's Electronic Dictionary on screen or on a computer in class.
- Ask the students to work in pairs and write down the other words built from the word 'manage' in the first column of Table 1, and then the types of words they are in column two.
- Explain that the dictionary can help you find different words in a word family.
- Find the word 'manage' in the electronic dictionary. On the right of the word, click on the button that says *Word Building*. Check that all the words have been listed.
- Ask the students to write down the meanings in the third column of Table 1. They can add the translation in L1 if they wish. Use the dictionary to check the meanings are correct.

Word building

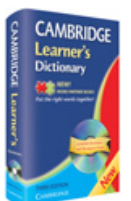
- Now ask the students to make up example sentences for each word. They should write the words and examples into Table 2.
- Ask the pairs to read out the sentences and for the rest of the class to decide if they are using the word correctly. Use the electronic dictionary to check if they are unsure.
- Ask students which of these words they think would be most useful for them to remember and use. This will help them make choices about recording and trying to use new vocabulary – they cannot remember all the new words they come across every lesson.

3. Homework (15 minutes)

- For homework hand out the Student research worksheets and assign the students some words to research. If you can't think of a word, try "happy", "help" or "like".
- Ask students to do this activity on their own using the Cambridge Learner's Electronic Dictionary and to be ready to present some of their findings to the rest of the class next lesson
- Ensure you allocate time next lesson for students to feed back on words they have researched.
- Encourage students to use this table when researching the meaning of words they are not sure of, especially when studying independently.

TIPS

- If you don't know how to pronounce a word then click on the audio symbols in the definition window of the electronic dictionary. You will be able to listen to British and American pronunciations of the word.
- If you want to practise pronouncing the word before you present it to the class, click on the microphone symbol next to the audio symbols to bring up the pronunciation practice box. If you have a microphone you will be able to record yourself saying the word, then play back the recording to compare it with the dictionary audio files.
- You can copy and paste words and definitions from the Cambridge Learner's Electronic Dictionary into other electronic documents.
- Why not start an electronic word bank for your coursebook or course by copying and pasting selected words and their meanings into a Word or Excel document?



Class activity worksheet

Word building

Key word: manage

- Write the words you can build from the key word into Table 1. Then write the types of word and the meanings for each word.

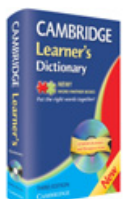
Table 1

Word family	Type of word	Meaning
manager	noun	Someone in control of an office, shop, team etc

- Write the words and example sentences into Table 2.

Table 2

Word family	Example sentences
manager	The manager of the England football team gets paid a lot of money.



Student research worksheet

Word building

- Your teacher will give you a key word to research. Use the Cambridge Learner's Electronic Dictionary to find words built from the key word.
- You can do this at home or in the school computer lab if you have one.
- Use a copy of the Research Activity Tables to record your research.
- Pick a word from your search that you think is useful and/or interesting and that you would like to present to the class.

Key word:

Table 1

Word family	Type of word	Meaning

Table 2

Word family	Example sentences

TIPS

- If you don't know how to pronounce a word then click on the audio symbols in the definition window of the electronic dictionary. You will be able to listen to British and American pronunciations of the word.
- If you want to practise pronouncing the word before you present it to the class, click on the microphone symbol next to the audio symbols to bring up the pronunciation practice box. If you have a microphone you will be able record yourself saying the word, then play back the recording to compare it with the dictionary audio files.
- You can copy and paste words and definitions from the Cambridge Learner's Electronic Dictionary into other electronic documents.
- Why not start an electronic word bank for your coursebook or course by copying and pasting selected words and their meanings into a Word or Excel document?

