GAMES TO LEARN VOCABULARY

Knoword

Level: All levels.

Key question: Is there a game to practice English with definitions of words?

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If I confess that I, an almost 38-year-old with a Ph.D. in English, playthis game like crazy and can't get enough of it, you'll probably think that I need a life or I'm a nerd (spoiler alert: I'm a huge nerd).

Knoword has to be one of the most entertaining, enjoyable and fun games the whole internet has to offer. My younger students have cried on a few occasions becausethey didn't finish their assignments on time and were unable to play!

It doesn't matter if you're a beginner, an intermediate learner or an advanced vocabulary *virtuoso* (master, highly skilled person)—at any level, this game is for you.

The rules are very simple: You have one minute to **read as many definitions as you cannad write** the correct answer.

Every time you give a correct answer, you get one or two extra seconds, and every fourcorrect answers give you a hint.

You can skip as many words as you want, so make sure you press Esc or click on Skip whenever you don't know a word.

At the end of the game, you'll be able to see the number of correct answers, your accuracy andyour points, among other *stats* (information).

The best part? After every game, you'll get some random game suggestions on different specific topics.

Choose your favorite topics and practice/learn English vocabulary like a boss with Knoword.

If you want to go one step further, log in with your Facebook or Google account to **save your progress, create your own word packs and <u>browse all the available packs</u> created by Knoword and other users like you!**

Proof It!

Level: Intermediate/Advanced.

Key question: What's the best game to practice English

proofreading?

Do you think you have what it takes to be a proofreader?

Are you detailed-oriented, good at finding spelling, grammar and punctuation errors, and want to take your English to the next level?

In that case, Proof It! is the game for you.

You're given 10 sentences with one mistake each. Your mission is to find and correctall 10 mistakes.

I recommend this game for <u>advanced students of English</u> who are taking the final stepstoward fluency or are getting ready for an exam.

The mistakes you can find in these sentences range from **grammar** (for example, *do* insteadof *does*) and **spelling errors** (*break* instead of *brake*) to **punctuation** (a comma may be missing) and **capitalization** mistakes (*alice* instead of *Alice*).

"Scrabble" Online

Level: Intermediate/Advanced.

Key question: Is there a board game to improve my English vocabulary I can also play online?

"Scrabble" might not be a game designed specifically for learning English, but it's a great way to **test your vocabulary knowledge with friends**.



<u>Originally designed as a board game</u>, you can now play "Scrabble" online with friends oragainst the computer. All you need to do is enter your age to play!

The rules to play "Scrabble" are simple. You choose seven letters in the form of tiles and use them to make words. All tiles touching one another have to make a real English word, and you have to build words using the letters from other words that have already been laid down.

Every square has a letter and number written on it that represents the points that you get forusing that letter.

As you play online, you can chat with the other players. Just type messages in the chat space to the right of the Scrabble board.

And remember, "<u>Scrabble</u>" can get very challenging toward the end, even for native English speakers, so don't become frustrated if you struggle to make a word and have to pass on a turn. It happens to all of us!

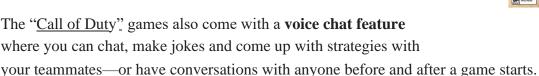
"Call of Duty"

Level: Upper-intermediate/Advanced.

Key question: Is there any video game with a voice chat feature that will allow me to practice my English conversation skills?

The "Call of Duty" series includes some of the most popular action games of all time.

In these games, you play the role of a soldier, where you and yourteam work together to defeat the other team.

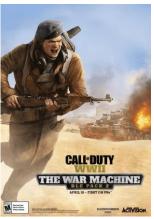


This is a great opportunity to practice English skills that you might not get from the classroom, like:

<u>Listening to different English accents</u>, including accents of other second-language speakers.

Learning informal English and slang.

Becoming more accustomed (used to) to speakers who naturally talk quickly or slowly.



"League of Legends"

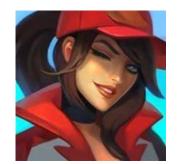
Level: Intermediate/Advanced.

Key question: Is there any free adventure video game I can use to practice English?

"League of Legends" is a **free adventure game** where teams worktogether to complete various quests.

The game has a **built-in chat feature**, where you can talk to peopleusing text.

But since a large portion of the game requires communicating withyour teammates, a lot of people like supplementing the game with voice chat programs like Discord or TeamSpeak to talk to one another.



If your friends already have a Discord channel, simply ask them for the address to join. Otherwise, you can create your own by downloading the program and following the easy-to-understand instructions and then link them to your chatroom.

"VRChat"

Level: Intermediate/Advanced.

Key question: What's the best "video game + chatroom" option to practice English?

"VRChat" isn't like any other game that you've ever played before.

In fact, it's more like a chatroom with a video game worldbuilt into it—you even help create the world!



Simply choose your character and **chat with thousands of people from across theworld** using text or voice chat.

You'll get to explore more than 25,000 virtual worlds and talk with new people while doingso.

"The Witcher"

Level: Intermediate/Advanced.

Key question: Is there any video game that'll allow me toimmerse myself in English completely?

Do you enjoy having supernatural powers and visiting beautiful lands while fighting enemies and improving yourEnglish?

Say no more!

Become Geralt of Rivia and press "play"!

This game is *massive* (very big) and has won the hearts of millions during the last couple of years.

<u>It's available in 14 languages</u>, and seven of them (English included!) have had the full audio translated, which means you have subtitles, full dialogues and even songstranslated!

There are several ways you can use "The Witcher" to learn English, apart from chatting withother players.

For starters, you can choose to play the game in your native language (if it's available) and switch on the English subtitles.

You can also go for a total immersion experience and set the audio to English as well, so allyou'll hear is English throughout the whole game.

If the game isn't enough for you, you can have a look at the *superb* (great, fantastic) seriesNetflix has created. It's <u>also called "The Witcher,"</u> and it's worth a watch even if it's just because you want to admire the beauty of the scenery.

In case you're not satisfied yet, you can also find some <u>advanced English classes around thetopic of</u> "The Witcher" and even videos of <u>the "real" Witcher (Henry Cavill) reading parts of one of the books.</u>

Have Fun and Practice Your English

There are a number of online games to practice English with, no matter what your hobbies and interests are.

