

## Find the words (Reading and vocabulary)

- Description:** Students scan a text to find particular words.
- Use with or after:** *English Network Plus (New Edition)*, Unit 12.
- Skill:** Reading and vocabulary
- Focus:** The English alphabet; words starting with particular letters; finding the longest and shortest words in a text.
- Time:** 15 minutes
- Preparation:**
- Print out the second page of this file and make a copy for each student.
  - Cut along the dotted line to remove the key.
- Procedure:**
- Make sure the students remember how to say the letters of the alphabet in English. For instance, stand in a circle and recite the alphabet from A to Z, with each person in turn saying one letter. Then do it a second time, but “whisper your letter very clearly” (you should also whisper the instructions for this), and a third time, but “shout your letter as loud \* as you can” (you should also shout this instruction).
  - Ask them to find a new partner and sit down together somewhere. Each person will need a pen or pencil and their copy of the textbook *English Network Plus (New Edition)*.
  - Give each student a copy of the worksheet and ask them to follow the instructions on the sheet.
  - Monitor the activity and insist that they use the English names for the letters of the alphabet. Make corrections if necessary.
  - When they have finished, ask them to form larger groups (for instance two pairs join to form a group of four) and compare their answers.
  - Distribute the key at the end.
- \* You could also say *loudly*, but that doesn’t sound very natural when one is shouting.



Look at the text *A case of bad luck* on page 81 of *English Network Plus (New Edition)*, including the paragraph about Japanese and Chinese Americans at the top of the page.

Work with a partner. Each of you should write down one word from the text that starts with each letter of the alphabet, but you should each write different words whenever possible.

Words starting with...

A _____	N _____
B _____	O _____
C _____	P _____
D _____	Q _____
E _____	R _____
F _____	S _____
G _____	T _____
H _____	U _____
I _____	V _____
J _____	W _____
K _____	X _____
L _____	Y _____
M _____	Z _____

Which letter of the alphabet has only one word that starts with it? \_\_\_\_\_

Which letters of the alphabet have no words that start with them? \_\_\_\_\_

Are these letters in the text at all? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, which words are they in? \_\_\_\_\_

Which are the two longest words on the page (not counting *quick-thinking*, which is two words, or *butter-side-down*, which is three)? \_\_\_\_\_

Which words are the shortest? \_\_\_\_\_

Form larger groups and compare your answers.

**Key:**

The only word that starts with *Q* is *quick*. No words in the text start with *X* or *Z*. The letter *X* is in *next*, *taxi* and *explained*. The letter *Z* is not in the text at all. The two longest words are *psychological* (13 letters) and *unsuccessful* (12). The shortest words are *a* and *I*.

