

## Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue

### 2.10 Five favourite words

<b>LEVEL</b>	All levels
<b>TIME</b>	25–30 minutes (depending on size of class)
<b>LANGUAGE</b>	Revising vocabulary
<b>PROCEDURE</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 Students look through their exercise books and select from the words that they have recently learned five words that they particularly like. They write these down.</li><li>2 Then they form pairs.</li><li>3 Together they negotiate a common list of five words from the ten they had originally. They can use whatever criteria they like to argue for or against words. It might be the shape, sound, association, or relevance of the word for them.</li></ol>

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- 4 They write this new list on a separate piece of paper.
- 5 Collect the pieces of paper and redistribute them so that each pair receives a different list.
- 6 The pairs now write a dialogue or short story incorporating the words on the list they have just received.
- 7 Students read out their dialogues or stories and the others, with the exception of the authors of the list on which it was based, try to guess what the five listed words were.

<b>REMARKS</b>	The preparatory stages of the activity encourage the students to be selective in dealing with new vocabulary, while ‘defending’ their own words can help fix these in their memories. The random nature of the lists can make for some very memorable texts, which also helps with the acquisition of vocabulary.
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