

The 20 Word Challenge

(Tip from teachingutensils.blogspot.com)

Benefits:

- prepares students for learning
- acts as an engaging hook
- raises interesting points for discussion
- supports students' literacy
- improves peer feedback

How it works

As learners enter the room they are presented with an image related to their subject.

They are given 3 minutes to write their thoughts on it in 20 words.

They are then asked to swap with a partner and provide them with feedback (checking spelling, punctuation, grammar and word choice).

Words are shared verbally to initiate discussion

THE 10 FASTEST MEN AND HOW THEY'VE TESTED ...

- ✓ **USAIN BOLT** (Jam).....9.58
The world record-holder has never failed a drugs test
- ✗ **YOHAN BLAKE** (Jam)9.69
The 100m world champion served a three-month ban for a drug-related offence
- ✗ **TYSON GAY** (USA) 9.69
Tested positive for a banned substance in May
- ✗ **ASafa POWELL** (Jam)..... 9.72
Failed a test for a banned stimulant in the Jamaican Championships in June
- ? **NESTA CARTER** (Jam)..... 9.78
Unconfirmed reports of positive test this year
- ? **MAURICE GREENE** (USA)... 9.79
Admitted making a payment of \$10,000 to a former Mexican discus thrower in 2003 but denied it was for drugs
- ✗ **JUSTIN GATLIN** (USA) 9.79
Failed a drugs test in 2006 and subsequently banned for four years in 2007
- ✗ **STEVE MULLINGS** (Jam)... 9.80
Banned for two years in 2005 for drug use and banned for life in 2011 after testing positive for a masking agent
- ✓ **DONOVAN BAILEY** (Can).. 9.84
Won 100m and relay Olympic gold in 1996 but has never tested positive
- ✓ **BRUNY SURIN** (Can)9.84
Never used drugs and in his autobiography said the sport was plagued by users

20 word challenge – What are your thoughts on this newspaper snippet?

The example was used with level 3 sports students. One particular learner made reference to the fact that drugs in sport have 'good and bad effects'. When their peer provided feedback, they commented on the use of terminology and so recommended 'good' be changed to 'positive' and 'bad' to 'negative'. Simple and effective development of literacy.

Learners could also bring in their own images to initiate discussion.

What does this image symbolise for you?

