



## Low-tech teaching (4): Paper Powerpoints

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**Lesson Topic:** Portmanteaus/ Learners choice of topic

**Level:** B1+

**Time:** 60-90 minutes

**Activities:** Dictogloss, then plan, design and give presentation

**Materials:** Paper, scissors, glue, old magazines, card

**Language:** Discourse markers/ Connecting words and phrases

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## Introduction

This activity aims to do three things:

- Develop listening skills
- Learn and practise common discourse markers used in presentations
- Give a Paper Powerpoint presentation

## Preparation

Print out the Paper Powerpoint pictures for your presentation - 'Portmanteau words'.  
Glue the pictures onto card (optional).

Bring scissors, glue, pens and old magazines to the lesson for learners to make or draw their own Paper Powerpoint slides.

## Procedure

1) Tell learners that they will hear a presentation on the subject of *Portmanteau words*. Write 'Portmanteau Words' on the WB. The first time they should **just listen**.

2) Give the presentation 'Portmanteau Words'. Hold up the pictures to illustrate your points (with the underlined words in the script).

3) After the presentation, learners confer and discuss. Ask them "Did you understand everything?"

4) Tell learners that they will hear the presentation again. They have two tasks:

- write down everything that you say
- identify the words which give structure to the presentation – connecting words & phrases

5) Give the presentation again.

6) Learners confer and compare notes.



7) Ask learners for the structure words/ connecting phrases in the presentation and write them up on the WB.

8) Give the learners the script and ask them to find all the portmanteau words.

9) Check answers. Answer any questions the learners might have.

10) TASK – Tell the learners that you want them to give a Paper Powerpoint on a subject of their own choosing. They should work in pairs or groups and:

- Use the structure words
- Use 6-8 slides (just as in your presentation)
- Choose a subject that is **U.F.O.** – unusual, funny or original

11) Learners give their Paper Powerpoint presentations.

12) Give feedback – comment on examples of good language use

### **Follow-up**

Send learners to the following sites and write about three more portmanteau words.

[86 Great Examples of Portmanteau Portmanteau Words](#)

### **Images**

[Mayon Volcano](#). Jhousiel on flickr. CC license 2.0.

[Suitcase](#). Jen Collins on flickr. CC license 2.0.

[Cowboys en la Marcha Gay 2009](#). Sari\_Dennise on flickr. CC license 2.0.

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# Portmanteau words - presentation script

**Have you ever wondered** why we have words like *blog* and *gaydar*? Here we join two words and two meanings, web and log, gay and radar, to make a new word.

**Interestingly**, the concept of portmanteau words comes from the book *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll. He put the word chuckle (to laugh) with snort (breathing deeply through your nose) to make the portmanteau *chortle*.

**What is more**, the word portmanteau is a portmanteau. Port comes from the French 'to carry' and 'manteau' means coat. A portmanteau was originally a suitcase with two compartments.

**However**, some argue that the use of portmanteaus has gone too far. One example is the use of portmanteau to describe celebrity couples like Brangelina (Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie).

**Although** such words are just a bit of fun, there is a serious side to portmanteaus. Arguably, the constant use of Obamacare by Republicans in the US made it very difficult for the Democratic party to pass new healthcare laws.

**To conclude**, portmanteaus are a part of everyday speech, from the world of celebrity gossip to political debate. So from the Beatles to blog, pixel and vog, don't underestimate the ginormous power of portmanteau words.

## Discourse Markers/ Connecting words & phrases

Have you ever wondered...?

Interestingly

What is more

However

Although

To conclude

