Endings & Beginnings

Estimated play time: Approximately 20 minutes
Number of players: Unlimited
Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad; noisemakers

Overview: In this game players are given the first half of a compound word or a two-word phrase and the second half of another compound word or a two-word phrase. They must provide the one word that completes both. For example, given:

Credit ____________ trick

players should think “credit blank and blank trick.” The one word(s) that completes both “credit” and “trick” is card—making credit card and card trick.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This game is fun but challenging. It may be best to give your players the first letter of the answer; or if you think they might want to try before getting a hint, you can give them the first letter after it’s clear that they’re stumped. It will also help a lot if you write the words on the board so that the players can see them.

Instructions:
1. Divide the players into an even number of teams.

2. Read the first clue. Discussion is permitted among teammates. Prior to the start of the game, a method to signal when a team is ready to answer must be determined. Ringing bells and New Year’s blowers are just two inexpensive noisemakers. Raised hands work, but the host must be vigilant to watch for whose hand went up first. The host always has the final say in any disputes.

3. After a team is recognized as the first to signal, they may give an answer. If the first answer is incorrect, the other teams may ‘buzz’ in and answer.

4. Keep score (10 points each answer) after each question is answered correctly. Play until all questions have been asked and answered.
Endings & Beginnings

Questions

1. Lumber __________ knife (hint: j)
2. Sleeping __________ pipes (hint: b)
3. Smoking __________ control (hint: g)
4. Back __________ hog (hint: g)
5. Root __________ barrel (hint: b)
6. American __________ pole (hint: f)
7. Sweet __________ flakes (hint: c)
8. Soup __________ cabinet (hint: k)
9. Second __________ split (hint: b)
10. Oval __________ supplies (hint: o)
11. Public __________ program (hint: t)
12. Cold __________ horse (hint: w)

Questions

1. Jack
2. Bag
3. Gun
4. Ground
5. Beer
6. Flag
7. Corn
8. Kitchen
9. Banana
10. Office
11. Television
12. War