

American English

Vocabulary List

for *Go Fish*, *Seven Speaking and Listening Games for Learning Languages*

The seven games in the book *Go Fish* are played with illustrated vocabulary cards. 126 items found “around the house” are pictured. Of these, 86 items appear on two cards each, and 40 additional items are represented by individual smaller pictures, providing additional vocabulary.

The list of vocabulary items shown in duplicate on the cards is subdivided into nine sub-set lists: Rooms, General Vocabulary, Kitchen, Living Room, Dining Room, Bedroom, Study, Bathroom, and Non-Count Items found in the Kitchen. The items on these lists do **not** appear in the book in this order.

It takes 26 pairs of cards (52 cards) to make a set for playing *Go Fish*. The cards appear in the book as playing sets in the following order: A 1-26, B 1-26, C 1-26, D 1-8. These numbers are on each card for identification, and they follow each word on the list below.

To make the cards more interesting, the two pictures on each pair of cards is different. For example, there are two pictures of doors, one open, the other closed. This may suggest game activities in which the students compare and contrast the pictures. In some cases, again to provoke discussion and learning, the items pictured are somewhat different. For example, there are two toasters, one a “pop up” toaster and the other a toaster oven.

The words given in the vocabulary list on page v of the book are common in American English. However, there are often common alternatives and regional differences. When these alternatives are very common, they are listed below. For example, “couch (*also*, sofa).” If known, less common alternatives, such as “divan,” can be taught at the teacher’s discretion, but they are not given here. In some cases, the alternatives may have slightly different meanings. “Study, office, den, and library” may all refer to the same room, but they suggest different functions, again providing a learning opportunity.

Finally, it should be pointed out that learning “the words for things” in a new language is sometimes both complicated and fascinating. A simple translation may not be accurate, because different cultures classify things in different ways. In American English, a “light” is anything that provides light. A lamp is a kind of light, but a light on the ceiling is always called a light. In other languages, anything that provides light is a lamp. If this is too confusing to students, or if the cards do not fit the language being studied, the teacher may choose not to use those cards. In some cultures, the items shown on the cards do not exist. If closets do not exist in a culture or language, the teacher may choose not to use the “closet” cards.

1 Rooms

kitchen A-1
living room A-2
bedroom A-3
bathroom A-4
dining room A-5
study (*also* office, den, library) A-6
basement C-1
attic C-2
garage C-3
porch C-4

2 General Vocabulary

door A-7
window A-8
lamp A-9
light A-10
switch A-11
roof B-1
ceiling B-2
floor B-3
wall B-4
door knob (*also* door handle) B-5

3 Kitchen

stove A-12
sink (*also* kitchen sink) A-13
refrigerator (*also* fridge) A-14
toaster B-6
microwave oven B-7
dishwasher B-8
mixer B-9
trash can (*also* garbage can) C-5
pot C-6
frying pan C-7
carving knife (*also* kitchen knife) C-8
spatula C-9

4 Living room

sofa (*also* couch) A-15
easy chair A-16
coffee table A-17
television (*also* TV) B-10
DVD player B-11
book B-12
bookshelf B-13
rug, (*also* throw rug, carpet) B-14

5 Dining room

dining room table A-18
chair (*also* dining room chair, straight chair) A-19
glass B-15
fork B-16
spoon B-17
knife B-18
plate B-19
bowl B-20
cup B-21

6 Bedroom

bed A-20
bureau (*also* dresser, chest of drawers) A-21
blanket (*also* cover) A-22
closet (*also* clothes closer) C-10
hanger C-11
pillow C-12
sheet C-13
mirror C-14
shade C-15

7 Study (*also* Office, Den, Library)

desk A-23
telephone (*also* phone) A-24
newspaper C-16
cabinet (one is a filing cabinet [*also* file cabinet],
the other a storage cabinet) C-17
laptop (*also* laptop computer) C-18
printer C-19
sound system (*also* component stereo (with an
amplifier, radio, tape deck, CD player, and,
maybe, a phonograph [record player]) C-20

8 Bathroom

bathtub A-25
basin (*also* hand basin, wash bowl,
bathroom sink) A-26
toilet (*also* john, commode) B-22
shower B-23
washcloth (*also* face cloth) B-24
towel (*also* bath towel, hand towel) B-25
faucet B-26
scale (one a bathroom scale,
the other a kitchen scale) C-21
comb C-22
brush C-23
razor (*also* disposable razor, safety razor) C-24
shaver (*also* electric shaver) C-25
toothbrush C-26

9 Kitchen (non-count nouns)

flour D-1
soap D-2
milk D-3
ice D-4
soup D-5
bread D-6
butter D-7
meat D-8

Additional Vocabulary, left to right, top to bottom

tea kettle
teapot
candle
fireplace
coffee pot
pepper grinder and salt shaker
blender
bottle
coffee maker
picture / painting
toothpaste
fan
electric outlet and cord with plug
high chair
portable stereo (*also* boombox)
rocking chair
window curtain
garden / flowers
flower pot

trowel
swing
watering can
hose
tree
hammer
screwdriver
drill
measuring tape
file
plane
paint brush
saw
step ladder
axe (*also* hatchet)
scissors
ladder
dustpan and brush
mop
pail
vacuum cleaner
broom
shovel (*also* spade)
rake
pitch fork
wheel barrow
hoe
hedge trimmer (*also* hedge clipper, pruner)
lawn mower