

# **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