

This is a challenging, motivating and relevant lesson plan for C1/C2 students, with a focus on speaking, vocabulary, reading and building autonomous learning skills with online dictionaries.

To make a change from the same lesson on Christmas that we regurgitate year on year, how about a bit of reflection on the year that has gone by instead? Each year, Collins chooses a 'Word of the Year' from a shortlist of 10 that have had special significance, and they post a blog on the subject, which is a great source of authentic material for students. (NB: Bear in mind that the news events referenced are generally UK-centric.)

All resources come from the [Collins Dictionary website](#).

## Lesson procedure

1. Warmer: Ask students to reflect on 2022, both personally and globally, and choose 5 words to describe the year. Discuss with a partner.
2. Intro: Tell sts about the Word of the Year concept and distribute the 10 shortlist words amongst pairs AA/BB. Students have to make an example sentence using each of their words and research any relevant info on the background and/or origin.
3. Peer-teach: Repair students A/B to peer-teach each other their words.
4. Feedback: *Which words were new to you and which had you heard before? Is there an equivalent in your language?* (Fun fact: 6 of them were new to the dictionary this year!)
5. Class vote: Take a vote on which students think was chosen as WOTY and why.
6. Reading: Read blog post and answer:
  - *'What are the reasons given for choosing this year's WOTY?'*
  - *'What other new information did you learn?'*
7. Vocab: Look at the expressions in bold in the text - in pairs, students work out meanings from context. Encourage using an online dictionary to check/clarify.
8. Practice: Ex 1 - complete the sentences and Ex 2 - discussion.
9. Game: Word grab using the word cards in pairs/groups of 3 - have a conversation about personal and global highs and lows of 2022, grab a word card as you use it - who can get the most?
10. Reflection: *Which words did you like/dislike, which will you remember/forget?*
11. Extension/homework task: Write an article about your 2022 using as much of today's language as possible.