



Word Associations



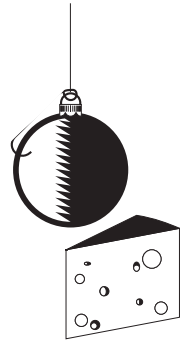
Psychologists and linguists (those who study words) are trying to understand the mechanism of how words are linked together in the mind.

Are there “*word-webs*” in the brain or systems that operate together? They use a basic *word association test* to try to come up with answers. The test is this: *given a word, what is the first word that comes to mind?*

They found that different people generally give the same response:

A noun elicits a noun, an adjective elicits an adjective.

For example, the most common response to *bread* was *butter*.



Try this WORD ASSOCIATION task.

Write down the first word that comes to mind for each word on both lists.

Time yourself. Give it to a friend and compare the results.

FIRST LIST

- BREAD *butter*
- CHAIR _____
- POLITICS _____
- EGGS _____
- DARK _____
- PRESIDENT _____
- ARM _____
- ALCOHOL _____
- SALT _____
- FRUIT _____
- JACK _____
- HORSE _____
- APPREHENSIVE _____
- HAM _____
- JUNE _____

SECOND LIST

- BOY *girl*
- TABLE _____
- GOVERNMENT _____
- CLOCK _____
- DAY _____
- FLOWER _____
- SLEEP _____
- WINE _____
- CHEERFUL _____
- CHEESE _____
- ROMEO _____
- SUN _____
- JUNE _____
- CHRISTMAS _____
- SUMMER _____

