

Reverse Charades Word List

520+ Ideas for Kids, Adults, Family & Friends

Cut these cards apart, drop them in a bowl or hat, and you're ready to play. Ideas are grouped by category so you can pick the right theme for your group, or mix everything together for a surprise round.

Quick Rules

- 1 Split into two or more teams.
- 2 One team picks a word and acts it out together, no talking.
- 3 One guesser from that team tries to name the word before time runs out.
- 4 Score a point for every correct guess, then switch roles.

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Total: 520+ reverse charades ideas across 26 categories.

Kids

20 words

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Brushing teeth | 11. Petting a cat |
| 2. Riding a bike | 12. Reading a bedtime story |
| 3. Building a sandcastle | 13. Climbing a tree |
| 4. Feeding a puppy | 14. Coloring with crayons |
| 5. Blowing bubbles | 15. Popping popcorn |
| 6. Flying a kite | 16. Washing hands |
| 7. Jumping rope | 17. Riding a scooter |
| 8. Making a snowman | 18. Playing tag |
| 9. Tying shoelaces | 19. Blowing out birthday candles |
| 10. Playing hopscotch | 20. Splashing in puddles |

Adults

20 words

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. Filing taxes | 11. Trying to open a stuck jar |
| 2. Assembling furniture | 12. House hunting |
| 3. Parallel parking | 13. Getting a tattoo |
| 4. Waiting in line at the DMV | 14. Wine tasting |
| 5. Job interview | 15. Yoga class |
| 6. First date jitters | 16. Networking event small talk |
| 7. Online dating swipe | 17. Doing laundry |
| 8. Rush hour traffic | 18. Setting up Wi-Fi |
| 9. Working from home meeting | 19. Assembling IKEA furniture |
| 10. Grocery shopping with a bad cart wheel | 20. Awkward elevator ride |

Funny

20 words

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. A cat knocking things off a table | 11. A dog chasing its own tail |
| 2. A toddler having a tantrum | 12. A grandma texting with one finger |
| 3. A superhero with the wrong power | 13. A cowboy scared of horses |
| 4. A zombie doing yoga | 14. A pirate with a fear of water |
| 5. A robot falling in love | 15. An octopus trying to juggle |
| 6. A chicken crossing the road | 16. A snail in a hurry |
| 7. A mime stuck in a box | 17. A fish out of water |
| 8. A ninja tripping over air | 18. A ghost trying to scare someone and failing |
| 9. A vampire afraid of garlic bread | 19. A clown who forgot how to be funny |

10. A dinosaur trying to text

20. A cat pretending to be a dog

Family

20 words

1. Family road trip

11. Board game argument

2. Thanksgiving dinner

12. Family movie night popcorn fight

3. Grandpa's nap on the couch

13. Setting the dinner table

4. Family photo pose

14. Family car singalong

5. Sunday morning pancakes

15. Doing chores together

6. Family game night

16. Family camping trip

7. Grocery shopping together

17. Birthday party surprise

8. Family vacation packing

18. Cleaning the garage

9. Backyard barbecue

19. Family walk with the dog

10. Family reunion hugs

20. Decorating the house for holidays

Friends

20 words

1. Group chat drama

11. Late night pizza run

2. Best friend's wedding toast

12. Friend group hiking trip

3. Girls' night out

13. Beach day with friends

4. Guys' fishing trip

14. Movie night couch fight

5. Karaoke night

15. Game night trash talk

6. Road trip with friends

16. Friend helping you move

7. Surprise birthday party

17. Concert mosh pit

8. Friend group photo pose

18. Friend teaching you to dance

9. Trying a new restaurant

19. Group costume party

10. Roommate chore chart argument

20. Late night deep conversation

Office

20 words

1. Awkward Zoom call freeze

11. Microwave popcorn burning in break room

2. Coffee break gossip

12. Elevator small talk

3. Printer jam frustration

13. Team building trust fall

4. Boss walking by unexpectedly

14. Overloaded email inbox

5. Typing too loud on keyboard

15. Sneaking out early on Friday

6. Office birthday cake surprise

16. Presentation technical difficulties

7. Fire drill evacuation

17. Office chair spinning

8. Water cooler chat
9. Lost stapler search
10. Reply-all email mistake

18. Photocopier breaking down
19. Desk phone ringing nonstop
20. Monday morning exhaustion

Classroom

20 words

1. Raising your hand to answer
2. Pop quiz panic
3. Recess kickball
4. Cafeteria food fight
5. Late for class
6. Forgetting homework
7. Science experiment gone wrong
8. Group project disagreement
9. School bus ride
10. Teacher writing on the whiteboard

11. Fire drill line-up
12. Lunch tray balancing act
13. Field trip excitement
14. Falling asleep in class
15. Passing notes in class
16. Sharpening a pencil
17. Show and tell presentation
18. Gym class dodgeball
19. Library "shh" moment
20. Graduation cap toss

Movies

20 words

1. Jaws shark attack
2. Titanic ship sinking
3. Jurassic Park dinosaur chase
4. Rocky training montage
5. The Matrix bullet dodge
6. Home Alone booby traps
7. E.T. bike flying scene
8. Ghostbusters proton pack blast
9. Star Wars lightsaber duel
10. Grease dance number

11. King Kong climbing a building
12. The Wizard of Oz tornado
13. Back to the Future time travel
14. Jumanji stampede
15. Frozen ice powers
16. Toy Story action figures coming alive
17. Finding Nemo swimming
18. The Lion King "Circle of Life"
19. Harry Potter flying broomstick
20. Indiana Jones boulder chase

TV Shows

20 words

1. Survivor tribal council
2. The Bachelor rose ceremony
3. American Idol audition
4. Cooking show timer panic
5. Weather forecaster pointing at a map

11. Sports commentator play-by-play
12. Cartoon character running off a cliff
13. Late night host monologue
14. Reality TV confessional
15. Dance competition judge scoring

6. News anchor breaking story
7. Home renovation reveal
8. Talk show host interview
9. Game show buzzer press
10. Wildlife documentary narration

16. Singing competition standing ovation
17. Court show judge's ruling
18. Magic show trick reveal
19. Prank show reaction
20. Cooking competition plating

Disney

20 words

1. Mickey Mouse waving
2. Cinderella losing her glass slipper
3. Simba's "Circle of Life" pose
4. Ariel singing underwater
5. Aladdin's magic carpet ride
6. Belle reading a book while walking
7. Elsa building an ice palace
8. Woody's pull-string phrase
9. Dumbo flying with his ears
10. Peter Pan flying over London

11. Snow White and the seven dwarfs marching
12. The Beast's transformation
13. Genie granting a wish
14. Buzz Lightyear "To infinity and beyond"
15. Mulan sword training
16. Pinocchio's nose growing
17. Tinker Bell sprinkling pixie dust
18. Baloo dancing in the jungle
19. Rapunzel letting down her hair
20. Stitch causing chaos

Animals

20 words

1. Elephant spraying water
2. Kangaroo hopping with a joey
3. Peacock showing off feathers
4. Gorilla chest-thumping
5. Flamingo standing on one leg
6. Bear catching fish
7. Penguin waddling on ice
8. Cheetah sprinting
9. Owl turning its head
10. Snake slithering

11. Giraffe eating leaves
12. Monkey swinging through trees
13. Bee buzzing and pollinating
14. Frog jumping between lily pads
15. Bat hanging upside down
16. Camel walking through sand
17. Shark circling prey
18. Spider spinning a web
19. Chicken laying an egg
20. Turtle slowly crossing a road

Sports

20 words

1. Scoring a soccer goal
2. Basketball slam dunk
3. Baseball home run swing

11. Bowling strike
12. Surfing a big wave
13. Skateboarding trick

4. Football touchdown celebration
5. Tennis serve
6. Golf swing and miss
7. Swimming freestyle stroke
8. Boxing match punch
9. Gymnastics balance beam routine
10. Ice skating spin

14. Weightlifting a heavy barbell
15. Archery bullseye
16. Rowing a boat race
17. Volleyball spike
18. Wrestling takedown
19. Track and field hurdle jump
20. Cheerleading pyramid

Food

20 words

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|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Eating a messy taco | 11. Squeezing a lemon |
| 2. Stirring a big pot of soup | 12. Popping a champagne cork |
| 3. Flipping a pancake | 13. Eating spicy food and needing water |
| 4. Cracking an egg | 14. Kneading bread dough |
| 5. Blending a smoothie | 15. Scooping ice cream |
| 6. Peeling a banana | 16. Grilling burgers |
| 7. Rolling out pizza dough | 17. Buttering toast |
| 8. Slurping spaghetti | 18. Peeling an orange |
| 9. Cutting a birthday cake | 19. Making sushi rolls |
| 10. Roasting marshmallows | 20. Sipping hot soup and burning your tongue |

Occupations

20 words

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|---|--|
| 1. Firefighter putting out a blaze | 11. Painter painting a wall |
| 2. Doctor checking a heartbeat | 12. Farmer milking a cow |
| 3. Chef flipping a pan | 13. Photographer taking a picture |
| 4. Teacher writing on a chalkboard | 14. Waiter balancing plates |
| 5. Police officer directing traffic | 15. Librarian shushing someone |
| 6. Construction worker using a jackhammer | 16. Postal worker delivering mail |
| 7. Pilot flying a plane | 17. Astronaut floating in zero gravity |
| 8. Hairdresser cutting hair | 18. Lifeguard blowing a whistle |
| 9. Dentist checking teeth | 19. Plumber fixing a leaky pipe |
| 10. Mechanic fixing a car engine | 20. Musician playing the drums |

Holidays

20 words

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Fireworks display | 11. Groundhog Day prediction |
|----------------------|------------------------------|

2. New Year's countdown kiss

3. Trick-or-treating

4. Thanksgiving turkey carving

5. Easter egg hunt

6. Fourth of July parade

7. St. Patrick's Day leprechaun hunt

8. Mother's Day breakfast in bed

9. Father's Day grill session

10. Labor Day picnic

12. April Fools' prank

13. Graduation cap toss

14. Birthday candle wish

15. Wedding bouquet toss

16. Baby shower gift opening

17. Retirement party toast

18. Anniversary dance

19. Housewarming party tour

20. Costume contest judging

Christmas

20 words

1. Decorating a Christmas tree

2. Santa climbing down a chimney

3. Wrapping presents

4. Building a snowman

5. Ice skating on a frozen pond

6. Reindeer pulling a sleigh

7. Hanging stockings

8. Baking gingerbread cookies

9. Caroling door to door

10. Opening presents on Christmas morning

11. Elf making toys

12. Hot cocoa with marshmallows

13. Snowball fight

14. Hanging Christmas lights

15. Sledding down a hill

16. Making a snow angel

17. Christmas tree shopping

18. Gift shopping in a crowded mall

19. Christmas morning pajama reveal

20. Nutcracker ballet dance

Halloween

20 words

1. Carving a pumpkin

2. Trick-or-treating door to door

3. Haunted house scare

4. Zombie shuffle

5. Witch stirring a cauldron

6. Vampire bite

7. Mummy wrapped in bandages

8. Ghost floating through a wall

9. Werewolf howling at the moon

10. Black cat crossing your path

11. Bobbing for apples

12. Costume contest walk

13. Spider crawling

14. Skeleton dance

15. Scarecrow standing in a field

16. Candy sorting after trick-or-treating

17. Haunted house jump scare

18. Bat flying at night

19. Frankenstein's monster walk

20. Fortune teller reading a crystal ball

Valentine's

20 words

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Giving a bouquet of roses | 11. Blowing a kiss |
| 2. Writing a love letter | 12. Holding hands on a walk |
| 3. Blind date nerves | 13. Sending flowers as a surprise |
| 4. Chocolate box surprise | 14. Love at first sight double take |
| 5. Candlelit dinner | 15. Wedding vows |
| 6. Proposing on one knee | 16. Anniversary toast |
| 7. Slow dancing | 17. Matchmaking friends |
| 8. Cupid shooting an arrow | 18. Heart-shaped box of chocolates |
| 9. Heart-shaped balloon | 19. Writing "will you be my valentine" |
| 10. Valentine's Day card exchange | 20. First kiss moment |

Summer

20 words

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|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Jumping into a pool | 11. Surfing a wave |
| 2. Building a sandcastle | 12. Roasting hot dogs at a campfire |
| 3. Applying sunscreen | 13. Fishing off a dock |
| 4. Riding a water slide | 14. Riding a jet ski |
| 5. Flying a kite at the beach | 15. Chasing an ice cream truck |
| 6. Grilling at a summer barbecue | 16. Snorkeling in the ocean |
| 7. Catching fireflies at night | 17. Building a bonfire |
| 8. Playing beach volleyball | 18. Playing frisbee on the beach |
| 9. Drinking lemonade on a hot day | 19. Floating on a pool raft |
| 10. Water balloon fight | 20. Catching a wave on a boogie board |

Travel

20 words

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Packing a suitcase | 11. Missing a flight and running through the airport |
| 2. Going through airport security | 12. Snorkeling on vacation |
| 3. Taking off in an airplane | 13. Riding a camel |
| 4. Getting seasick on a cruise | 14. Backpacking through Europe |
| 5. Hiking a mountain trail | 15. Riding a taxi in a big city |
| 6. Taking a selfie at a landmark | 16. Sightseeing with a tour guide |
| 7. Getting lost using a paper map | 17. Getting a passport stamped |
| 8. Riding a train | 18. Road trip singing in the car |
| 9. Checking into a hotel | 19. Waiting at baggage claim |

10. Renting a car

20. Riding a gondola in Venice

Nature

20 words

1. Hiking up a steep trail

11. Camping under the stars

2. Canoeing down a river

12. Feeding ducks at a pond

3. Watching a sunset

13. Walking through tall grass

4. Climbing a rocky mountain

14. Catching raindrops on your tongue

5. Planting a tree

15. Building a campfire

6. Watching a thunderstorm roll in

16. Watching a rainbow appear

7. Stargazing at night

17. Hiking through fallen leaves

8. Picking wildflowers

18. Rock climbing a cliff

9. Crossing a rickety bridge

19. Watching a volcano erupt

10. Watching a waterfall

20. Kayaking through rapids

Action Words

20 words

1. Sneezing

11. Stretching

2. Yawning

12. Skipping

3. Tripping

13. Crawling

4. Sprinting

14. Balancing

5. Whispering

15. Wobbling

6. Shivering

16. Freezing in place

7. Sweating

17. Melting

8. Laughing uncontrollably

18. Exploding

9. Snoring

19. Deflating like a balloon

10. Hiccupping

20. Bouncing

Easy

20 words

1. Sleeping

11. Throwing a ball

2. Eating an apple

12. Waving hello

3. Driving a car

13. Clapping

4. Swimming

14. Jumping

5. Dancing

15. Walking a dog

6. Painting a picture

16. Drinking coffee

7. Playing guitar

17. Talking on the phone

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 8. Washing dishes | 18. Taking a photo |
| 9. Reading a book | 19. Watching TV |
| 10. Brushing hair | 20. Riding an elevator |

Medium

20 words

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Assembling a puzzle | 11. Setting up a tent |
| 2. Fixing a flat tire | 12. Playing a video game with a controller |
| 3. Baking a cake from scratch | 13. Giving a haircut |
| 4. Playing chess | 14. Teaching a dance class |
| 5. Ice fishing | 15. Training a puppy |
| 6. Building a treehouse | 16. Fixing a computer |
| 7. Filming a movie scene | 17. Playing the drums in a band |
| 8. Directing traffic | 18. Rowing a canoe race |
| 9. Performing a magic trick | 19. Building a snowman with a top hat |
| 10. Painting a fence | 20. Serving a tennis ball |

Hard

20 words

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Time traveling | 11. Running for political office |
| 2. Writing computer code | 12. Building a rocket ship |
| 3. Negotiating a business deal | 13. Performing surgery |
| 4. Diagnosing an illness | 14. Translating a foreign language |
| 5. Solving a Rubik's cube | 15. Inventing a new gadget |
| 6. Defusing a bomb | 16. Predicting the weather |
| 7. Debating a court case | 17. Programming a robot |
| 8. Composing a symphony | 18. Interpreting sign language |
| 9. Filing a complicated tax return | 19. Investigating a crime scene |
| 10. Explaining the water cycle | 20. Piloting a submarine |

Impossible

20 words

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Explaining quantum physics | 11. Social anxiety at a party |
| 2. Feeling nostalgic | 12. Impostor syndrome |
| 3. Overthinking a decision | 13. Existential crisis |
| 4. Procrastinating | 14. Jet lag |
| 5. Losing your train of thought | 15. Brain freeze |

6. Déjà vu	16. FOMO (fear of missing out)
7. Writer's block	17. A metaphor
8. Awkward silence	18. Sarcasm
9. Buffering internet connection	19. Irony
10. Autocorrect fail	20. Confusion