

Week 1

## #1 Word of the Year 2015

Skills/ Objectives: Reading and Writing

### PART 1: Before you read...

#### Preparatory questions

1. What is your favorite emoji? Which one do you use most often? With whom? In which situations? Why?
2.  , the 'Face with Tears of Joy' emoji, was chosen as the Oxford Dictionaries Word of the Year in 2015. Do you use this emoji? What does it mean to you?

#### Vocabulary

1. Emoji (noun): a digital image used in electronic communication (e.g., instant messaging) to express feelings or ideas
2. Pictograph (noun): a symbol that expresses an idea or a word
3. Surge (noun): a great increase
4. Resemblance (noun): things or people that are similar to each other
5. Coincidental (adjective): things happening at the same time without being planned

#### Background information – “Word of the Year”

Since 2004, the Oxford Dictionaries team has chosen a word or expression that is significant and influential to the world over the last twelve months. In 2015, the 'Face with Tears of Joy' emoji was chosen as the Word of the Year. In the following article, the author explains the reasons why the emoji was chosen and introduces the history of emojis.

### PART 2: Article

**Word of the Year 2015** (*click the link to read the article*)

<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/word-of-the-year/word-of-the-year-2015>

### PART 3: Let's discuss!

1. Do you like using emojis? Why? Why not? What are the advantages and disadvantages of using emojis?
2. Can emojis replace words when people express their emotions online?
3. Have you ever had an “emoji-only” conversation? Was it effective? (Try it and share with us!)
4. If you can only use emojis to communicate with your friends, what would be some of the difficulties?
5. Anything you find interesting about the article or emojis!

## **PART 4: Learn further**

### **1. Oxford Dictionaries Word of the Year**

Find out more about current and previous words of the year!

<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/word-of-the-year>

### **2. YouTube video: David Crystal - How is the internet changing language today?**

Professor David Crystal is a linguist, which means he is interested in scientific study of language. In this interview, Professor Crystal shares about how the internet is affecting language use in the modern world.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P2XVdDSJHqY> (4:06 minutes)

### **3. The inventor of emoji on his famous creations – and his all-time favorite**

In this interview, Shigetaka Kurita, the creator of emojis, talks about the reasons why he invented emojis and his opinions of the use of emojis in the global world.

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2016/oct/27/emoji-inventor-shigetaka-kurita-moma-new-york-text>

## **Chat online!**

[Moodle Chat Room](#)

12 September 2018 (Wednesday) 5:30 – 6:30 pm

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