World’s Greatest Word Game
KICKSTARTER MAD LIBS

by Brian Elling
MAD LIBS® is a game for people who don’t like games! It can be played by one, two, three, four, or forty.

**• RIDICULOUSLY SIMPLE DIRECTIONS**

In this tablet you will find stories containing blank spaces where words are left out. One player, the READER, selects one of these stories. The READER does not tell anyone what the story is about. Instead, he/she asks the other players, the WRITERS, to give him/her words. These words are used to fill in the blank spaces in the story.

**• TO PLAY**

The READER asks each WRITER in turn to call out a word—an adjective or a noun or whatever the space calls for—and uses them to fill in the blank spaces in the story. The result is a MAD LIBS® game.

When the READER then reads the completed MAD LIBS® game to the other players, they will discover that they have written a story that is fantastic, screamingly funny, shocking, silly, crazy, or just plain dumb—depending upon which words each WRITER called out.

**• EXAMPLE (Before and After)**

“_____________________!” he said ____________________________

EXCLAMATION ADVERB

as he jumped into his convertible ___________________________

NOUN

drove off with his ____________________________ wife.

ADJECTIVE

“_____________________!” he said ____________________________

EXCLAMATION ADVERB

as he jumped into his convertible ___________________________

NOUN

drove off with his ____________________________ wife.

ADJECTIVE
In case you have forgotten what adjectives, adverbs, nouns, and verbs are, here is a quick review:

An ADJECTIVE describes something or somebody. *Lumpy, soft, ugly, messy,* and *short* are adjectives.

An ADVERB tells how something is done. It modifies a verb and usually ends in “ly.” *Modestly, stupidly, greedily,* and *carefully* are adverbs.

A NOUN is the name of a person, place, or thing. *Sidewalk, umbrella, bridle, bathtub,* and *nose* are nouns.

A VERB is an action word. *Run, pitch, jump,* and *swim* are verbs. Put the verbs in past tense if the directions say PAST TENSE. *Ran, pitched, jumped,* and *swam* are verbs in the past tense.

When we ask for A PLACE, we mean any sort of place: a country or city (*Spain, Cleveland*) or a room (*bathroom, kitchen*).

An EXCLAMATION or SILLY WORD is any sort of funny sound, gasp, grunt, or outcry, like *Wow!, Ouch!, Whomp!, Ick!,* and *Gadzooks!*

When we ask for specific words, like a NUMBER, a COLOR, an ANIMAL, or a PART OF THE BODY, we mean a word that is one of those things, like *seven, blue, horse,* or *head.*

When we ask for a PLURAL, it means more than one. For example, *cat* pluralized is *cats.*
MAD LIBS® is fun to play with friends, but you can also play it by yourself! To begin with, DO NOT look at the story on the page below. Fill in the blanks on this page with the words called for. Then, using the words you have selected, fill in the blank spaces in the story.

Now you’ve created your own hilarious MAD LIBS® game!
Have an idea for the next great American ________, but don’t know where to ________? Well, here’s some advice from one ________ to another. First, remember that even ________ writers like ________ had to start writing at some point. So, don’t get down in the ________ just because they already have ________ books with their name on them. Then, remind yourself that ________ is a process . . . A/an ________ process. Some authors take more than ________ months just to research and write one short ________! You’ll want to get your ________ on paper as fast as you can. Then it’s time to revise, and ________ again. And if you get stuck, try taking a walk around the ________ to get your creative ________ flowing. Sometimes the best writing happens when you’re not even ________ at your computer. And finally, find a supportive ________ to read your work. Nothing is more motivating than having a friend nearby to ________ you during the writing process.
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THE STORY OF YOU

NOUN

VERB ENDING IN “ING”

PLURAL NOUN

NOUN

A PLACE

OCCUPATION (PLURAL)

ADJECTIVE

LETTER OF THE ALPHABET

PLURAL NOUN

NOUN

PLURAL NOUN

ADJECTIVE

PART OF THE BODY (PLURAL)

ADJECTIVE

PLURAL NOUN

NOUN

ADVERB
Everyone has a unique ______________ inside of them that’s just ______________ to come out! So, what are you standing on the ______________ for? It’s time to step into that ___________ and share your experiences with (the) ______________! Once you do, you’ll be surprised at how many ______________ can’t wait to hear more. Readers love ___________ stories that are told from the PO- ______________ of the person who lived through them. You know what they say, ______________ are stranger than fiction. Of course, you’ll have to be as brave as a/an ______________ in shining armor to share your innermost ______________ and feelings. But there are great rewards for writers who are truly ______________. After all, it takes a lot of ______________ to air out your ______________ laundry in hopes of inspiring others to overcome their own ______________. But in the ______________, it’s ______________ worth it!
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WRITING FOR CHANGE</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OCCUPATION</strong> __________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PLURAL NOUN</strong> __________________________</td>
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<td><strong>VERB ENDING IN “ING”</strong> ____________________</td>
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<td><strong>A PLACE</strong> __________________________</td>
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<td><strong>TYPE OF BUILDING</strong> __________________________</td>
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<td><strong>ANIMAL (PLURAL)</strong> __________________________</td>
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<td><strong>PLURAL NOUN</strong> __________________________</td>
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<td><strong>ADVERB</strong> __________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PERSON IN ROOM</strong> __________________________</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Dear ________________ ,

I’m writing to you because I’m passionate about ________________. I think it’s important that everyday people, like me, speak up about all the problems that need ________________ in our ________________ today. I can’t just watch TV in my ________________ like a couch ________________ anymore. I want to ________________ up for what I believe in! For example, there are endangered ________________ living in our rivers and ________________ that need protecting! We need more environmentally ________________ products in our supermarkets, to help ________________ the environment. And we need to make sure each man, woman, and ________________ has the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of ________________. ________________! It feels so good to ________________ all this down in a letter. I want to thank you for your ________________ and I look forward to your response.

________________

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Seeking: Journal entries from talented ________________ with an interest in writing about the performing ________________ for inclusion in a/an ________________ -winning anthology. Entries must be ________________ words or less and should ________________ your passion for this ________________ topic. Interest in site-specific ________________ held in a/an ________________ is a plus.

To Apply: Please up- ________________ your application, cover ________________ , resume, and a sample of ________________ work to our website. We encourage applicants who are able to ________________ well with others in a highly diverse and collaborative ________________.

Thank you, ________________ , for your submission.
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