

## Transdeletion Twins

is a collaboratively created puzzle. In the first stage (puzzle creation), each team submits two words that when "transdeleted" (by deleting one letter and transposing the rest) become mates, opposites, words that appear in a common phrase separated by "and" or "or", or something like that.

Examples of transdeletion twins:

PUT and WOUND:

TACO and GOAD:

TUCK and URNS:

CART could not have been used in place of TACO, because the non-deleted letters don't get transposed. (Note to smart-alecks: Transposing two identical letters doesn't count as transposal.)

People who work together as a team in the puzzle-creation stage (before the break) should also work together as a team in the puzzle-solving stage (after the break). Teams should have two to four people.

In coming up with transdeletion twins, you'll find it helpful to start with a pair of antonyms (or whatever) and "untransdelete" them.

Once your team has come up with one or more pairs of transdeletion twins and selected its favorite (hopefully in ten minutes or less), please give Jim a sheet of paper with the names of the people on your team, the two long words, and the two shorter words they transdelete to. E.g.:

Bob, Carol, Ted, and Alice

TACO and GOAD

CAT and DOG

If you're not sure if your team's pair of twins is legit, check with Jim, who will apply the cardinal criterion of puzzle-party decisions: "Whatever's Most Fun." He may ask you to submit a different pair. Jim may also reject some pairs if they don't fit well with other pairs (e.g. if one team submits a pair that transdeletes to UP and DOWN and another team submits a pair that transdeletes to DOWN and OUT, one of the pairs may have to go). Words Jim deems too obscure will also be rejected.

Try to speak quietly enough that other teams won't hear what your team's eventual pair of transdeletion twins is.