

Oxymorons

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A figure of speech in which contradictory terms are combined to form a phrase is called an oxymoron. The phrase "terribly nice" is a good example, as is "holy war." Some people think "Army intelligence" is an example.

Try to match up the words in the left-hand column (1 – 11) with the words below to form 11 oxymorons. Each word will be used once.

1. jumbo
2. dry
3. awfully
4. war
5. sweet
6. thunderous
7. guest
8. perfectly
9. spend
10. white
11. non-working

silence
games
awful
shrimp
thrift
ice
mother
sorrow
good
host
chocolate

Answers:

1. jumbo shrimp
2. dry ice
3. awfully good
4. war games
5. sweet sorrow
6. thunderous silence
7. guest host
8. perfectly awful
9. spend thrift
10. white chocolate
11. non-working mother