How to play: Best with groups of 2 – 6 people. If you have a large group, divide into smaller groups.

1. Have students write a noun (confirm whether you want to include Proper Nouns or not) on the blank cards and then shuffle them with the prepared cards. **Make sure they don’t peek at the cards!**
2. Everyone needs to pick a card and keep it a secret. They shouldn’t show anyone else!
3. Students take turns asking one of the others a closed question of their choice (answers need to be yes or no). Suggest it’s best to start with generalities and then move to specifics. For example: Are you edible? (yes, I am) Are you a fruit? (No, I’m not) – rather than asking first “Are you a strawberry?”
4. Keep going around the circle, with each student asking ONE QUESTION to a person of their choice. If they think they know what someone is, they have to wait for their turn and ask it as a question. The person who guesses the most correct, wins.
5. If a student has been guessed, they can still ask questions and participate.

NOTE: If you’re tutoring 1 to 1 – keep the written cards as your own pile to choose from and have them fill out the blank cards with nouns for their own pile.

What you’ll need: Scissors, pencil or board marker (see below)
- If you want re-usable cards, you’ll need to laminate the cards. You can use the board marker for erasable cards!

Learning Objectives: Asking questions; Using adjectives; Making deductions. For example:

- “Are you edible?” “Can you swim?”
- “Are you warm?” “Are you used in a classroom?”
- “Yes, I am” “No, I’m not” “Yes, I can” “No, I can’t”
ESL Conversation Cards – 20 Questions

- a diamond ring
- a mountaineer
- a baseball game
- a dragon
- winter
- a dream

20 Questions
a nightclub

a hammer

a photo album

a treadmill

shampoo

a bumblebee