

Research Lexicon Instructions

Step 1 A warm up (We suggest 5-10 minutes)

Place the blue cornered cards in a pile blank side facing up on the table.

Turn over a card and each person answers the following two questions, over two rapid rounds in turn:

- “what does this word mean to you?”
- “why does this word mean that to you?”

When you have finished turn over another card and continue until time is up.

Now that you have had a chance to warm up...



Step 2 Talking about research

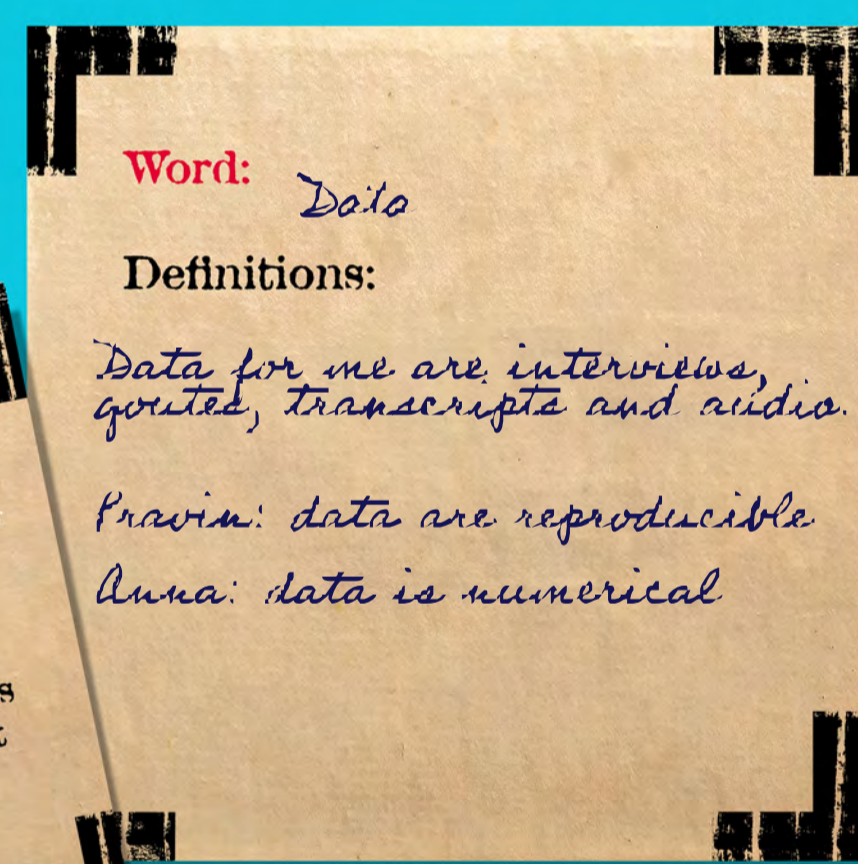
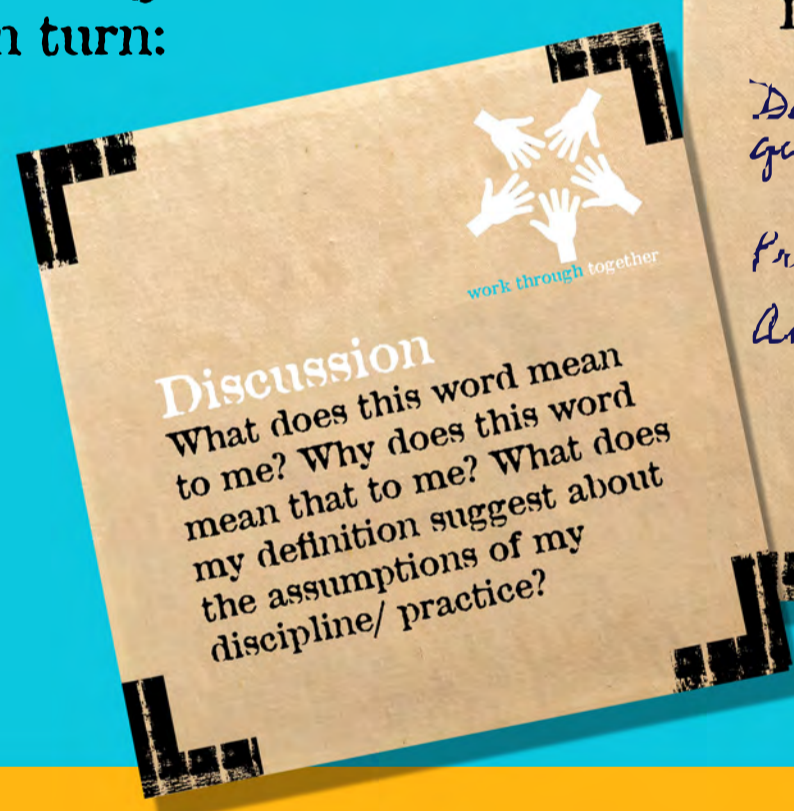
(We suggest 40-60 minutes)

This time use the cards with the yellow corners.

Turn over all the cards and lay them out on the table face up. One person chooses one term that is important to them to begin with and each person answers the following three questions in turn:

- What does this word mean to me?
- Why does this word mean that to me?
- What does my definition suggest about the assumptions of my discipline/ practice?

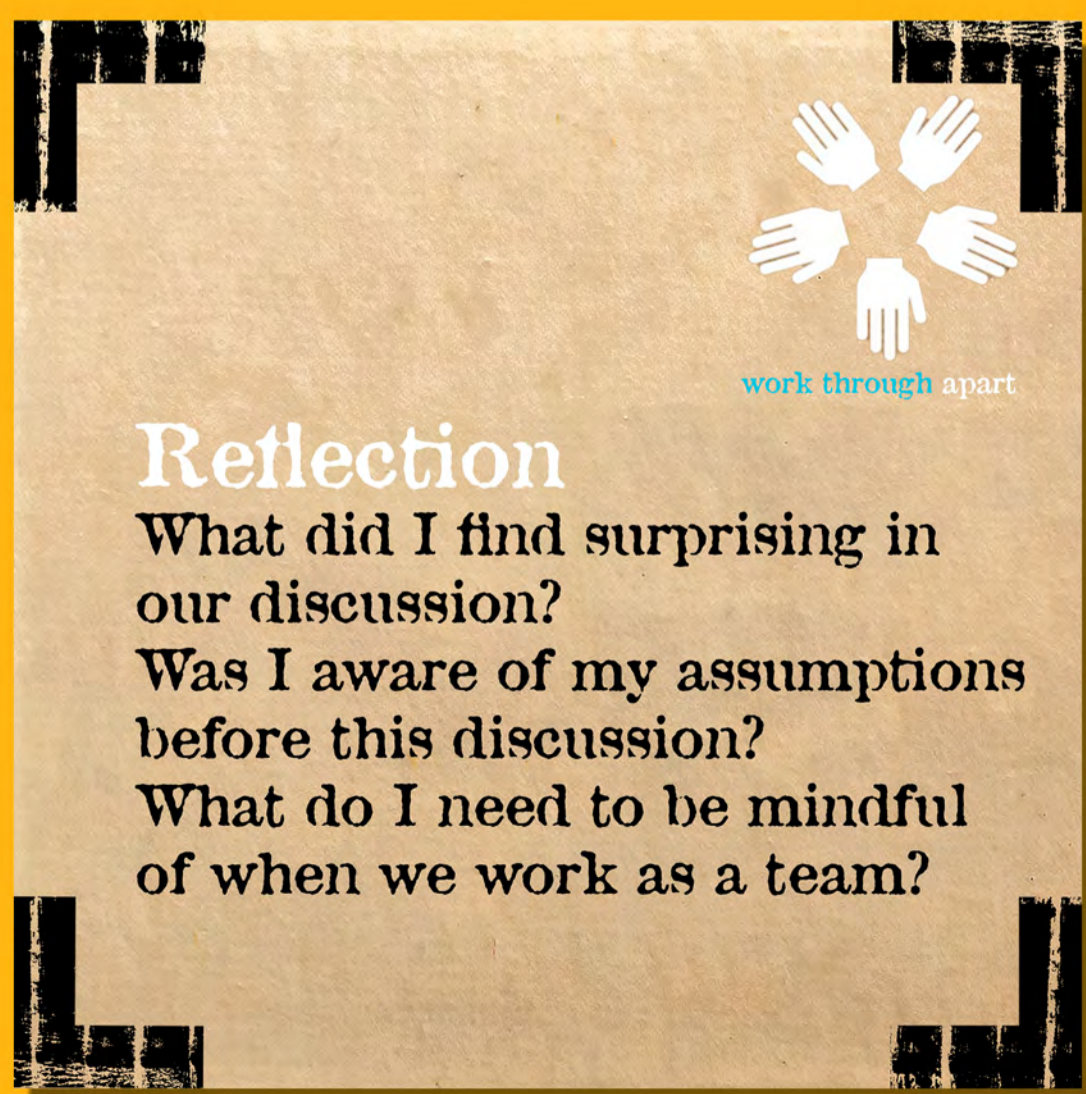
Work through as many cards as you wish - we find that most teams tend to spend c. 15-20 minutes on a term that generates more discussion.



Step 3 Individual reflection (We suggest 15 minutes)

You might find it helpful to take a moment to reflect on the activity working through the research terms.

- What did you find surprising?
- Had you realised your assumptions before this discussion?
- What do you need to be mindful of when working together?
- Where did you find the most similarity and difference in definitions and assumptions?



Brigstow Institute
University of Bristol



Research Lexicon Instructions continued

Step 4 The meeting point

(We suggest 20 - 30 minutes)

As a team, identify the terms that will be particularly relevant and important for your research project.

Work briefly through each to provide a working definition for each that you'll adopt for the purposes of your research.

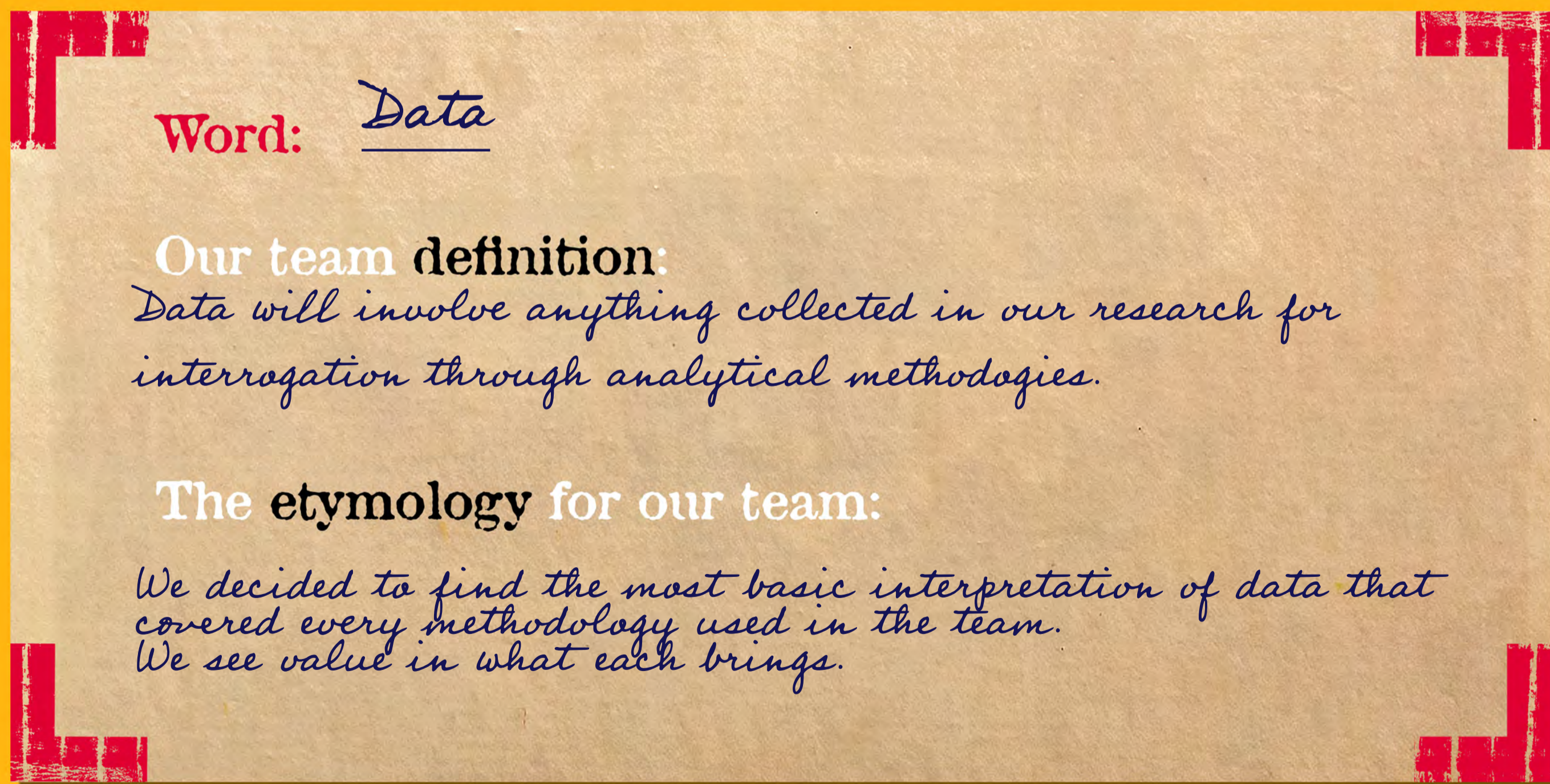
Try not to aim for a general 'lowest common denominator' definition but one that draws on the richness of your earlier discussion and disciplines / practices.

Which words will you need to revisit throughout the project?



Additional activities

You might find it useful to try to lay out the key cards relating to the research you are going to undertake in some kind of order - so what will you do first, second etc. Can you agree on an ordering? Is it linear or more iterative?



Are you curious to try this process with some other words?
Maybe some thematic / topic terms from your research?
eg 'sustainability', 'ageing' etc



Research
Theory
Lexicon

Research
Reflexivity
Lexicon

Research
Question
Lexicon

Research
Analysis
Lexicon

Research
Outputs
Lexicon

Research
Interpretations
Lexicon

Research
Subjectivity
Lexicon

Research
Hypothesis
Lexicon

Research
Collaboration
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Research
Rigour
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Research
Results
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Research
Replicability
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Research
Literature
review
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Evidence
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Originality
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Methods
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Measure
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growth
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fork
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flow
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Research
fire
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ceiling
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Research
bowl
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Research
cat
Lexicon

Research
far
Lexicon

Research
exercise
Lexicon

Research
city
Lexicon

Research
bloom
Lexicon

Research
beach
Lexicon



work through together

Discussion

What does this word mean to me? Why does this word mean that to me? What does my definition suggest about the assumptions of my discipline/ practice?



work through together

Discussion

Is there a meeting point?
Or a way of describing
this term that does justice to
its disciplinary strengths?



work through apart

Reflection

What did I find surprising in our discussion?

Was I aware of my assumptions before this discussion?

What do I need to be mindful of when we work as a team?

Word:

Our team definition:

The etymology for our team:

Word:

Our team definition:

The etymology for our team:

Word:

Our team definition:

The etymology for our team:

Word:

Definitions:

Word:

Definitions:

Word:

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