

FORTUNE-TELLER GAME

- 1 Come up with at least 15-20 words or phrases in each of eight categories (there are samples below to get you started):

THING

beach umbrella
microwave oven
popsicle stick
thumb tack
pepperoni pizza

ADJECTIVE

cranky
squishy
obnoxious
flaky
sneaky

GROUP

gerbils
popcorn shrimp
Q-tips
soup cans
shoelaces

VERB

bounce
knit
square-dance
snore
tiptoe

NUMBER

14,003
5.36 million
89 1/2
.004
2 dozen

FAMOUS PERSON

Mickey Mouse
Harry Potter
Justin Bieber
Miss Piggy
The Grinch

PLACE

the planet Zerg
the North Pole
[your city's] zoo
Mount Olympus
the school cafeteria

PROFESSION

Monster-movie director
Zippy Cola taste-tester
professional hole-puncher
worm rancher
toothbrush salesperson

- 2 Write each word or phrase on a slip of paper or small piece of poster board, using a different color for each category. Keep the slips for each category separated; eight bowls or small bags work fine.
- 3 Print the sample fortunes on separate, numbered cards.
- 4 Have your "subject" pick a number from one to five. Each of the five sample fortunes requires a different set of words/phrases. Either have your subject draw the ones to use, or you as the fortune-teller can draw from the appropriate categories as you read the fortune.

FORTUNE #1

1 thing, 2 groups, 1 verb, 1 adjective, 2 places, 1 profession, 1 famous person, 1 number

All your dreams will come true! You will discover the long lost [THING] of [PLACE].

This will lead to [NUMBER] appearances on late-night TV, where you will take advantage of your new-found fame to [VERB] your way into the hearts of millions. [FAMOUS PERSON] will beg you to co-star in the upcoming megahit, "[GROUP] in [PLACE]." After a rewarding career as a superstar and part-time [PROFESSION], you will retire to write [ADJECTIVE], best-selling stories about [GROUP].

FORTUNE #2

1 adjective, 4 groups, 1 verb, 1 profession, 1 number, 1 thing, 1 place

Many honors will come your way! You will be voted Most [ADJECTIVE] for your work with [GROUP]. You will become famous teaching [GROUP] to [VERB], and will become a respected [PROFESSION]. After [NUMBER] years researching the [GROUP] of [GROUP], you will be presented with a solid gold [THING] at a ceremony in [PLACE].

FORTUNE #3

2 verbs, 1 famous person, 1 profession, 1 place, 2 groups, 2 numbers, 1 adjective

Romance is in your future! You love to [VERB], which will introduce you to many exciting people, including [FAMOUS PERSON]'s favorite [PROFESSION]. At the close of a whirlwind courtship, you will be married in [PLACE], among the lovely tropical [GROUP]. After [NUMBER] years there learning how to [VERB], you will return to civilization, bringing with you [NUMBER] children and a large [ADJECTIVE] collection of priceless [GROUP].

FORTUNE #4

1 number, 2 groups, 1 profession, 1 verb, 2 adjectives, 1 famous person, 1 place, 1 thing

You just can't lose! You will enter a contest and win the [NUMBER]-dollar jackpot, which will allow you to leave your boring [GROUP] behind and become a world-class [PROFESSION]. You will [VERB] all day as you happily take your place among the rich and [ADJECTIVE]. [FAMOUS PERSON] will invite you to the [ADJECTIVE] resort in [PLACE], where you can fish for [GROUP] and enjoy your own personal [THING].

FORTUNE #5

4 groups, 1 place, 2 adjectives, 1 thing, 1 famous person, 1 verb

The simple life for you! You will spend many happy years raising [GROUP] on a farm in [PLACE]. Your herd of prize-winning [GROUP] will graze contentedly in the [ADJECTIVE] [GROUP], and your [THING] will take first place at the county fair. Unfortunately, your peaceful life will ultimately be shattered by the news that [FAMOUS PERSON] is planning to build a center for [ADJECTIVE] [GROUP] who [VERB], on the property next to your farm.