**Creating Word Clouds In Wordle**

This is an excellent tool for reviewing major concepts from a lesson or for introducing a lesson. Participants will review important terms while creating a "word cloud" to illustrate major concepts and/or demonstrate the importance and/or relationships between terms.

**Steps for using Wordle:**

1) Visit www.wordle.net

2) Click on "gallery" to view examples of word clouds created by others. Note to teacher: there may be samples that include language that is inappropriate for classroom use. It is recommended to review the samples before showing them to the group.

3) Click on "create your own". A new screen will appear.

4) In the blank box, type words that are associated with the assigned topic. For the insurance lesson, some terms might include risk, premium, deductible, liability, renter's, homeowner's, collision, comprehensive, health, life, beneficiary, dependant.

5) Type each word on a separate line

6) If a phrase includes more than one word, do not leave a space between the words. For example, medical payments insurance would be typed as: medicalpaymentsinsurance

7) The importance of specific words can be illustrated when the word appears larger than others. To cause this change, simply type the same word in the box several times

8) When all words have been added, click "go".

9) The word cloud will appear on the new screen.

10) The word cloud appearance can be changed by clicking the "randomize" button.

11) The word cloud appearance can also be changed by clicking the "font", "color", or "layout" buttons.

12) Participants may print their word cloud by clicking "print" or save it to the public gallery by clicking "save to public gallery". The save option will require a title and the creator's name.

13) After saving to the public gallery, a code will appear at the bottom of the word cloud. This code can be copied and pasted into a webpage or blog that will link to the word cloud.

Tips:

Participants may wish to type their word list in a word processing program, then copy and paste into the text box. This prevents re-typing all the words in the event that something needs to be changed or the internet connection is lost.