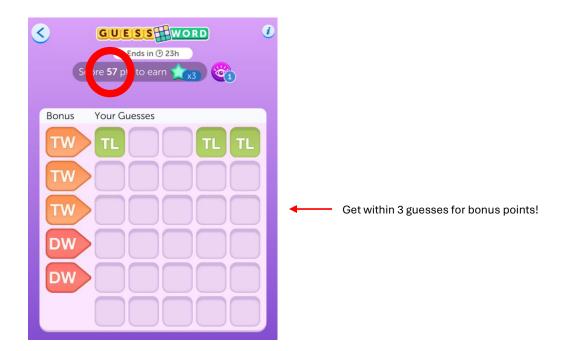# Guess Word Strategy

For the higher bonus award, the objective is to guess the word in the first three turns. Fortunately, this becomes a math game more than a word game.

In the below example, the game has a target of 57 points to earn 3 stars. That 57 is reduced by one-third for each of the first three guesses: Thus, on the third guess (in this example) the target is 19 points.

Get within 3 guesses for bonus points!

The strategy for the first two guesses is to identify potential letters for that third word. Needing 19 points, I opt for a starting word that has multiple 4-point letters. In this case (below) I start with the word CHAMP.

For the games where the point total is under 15, I opt for something with 2-point letters (like BRAND). For the games with a third word target over 40, it will most likely include one of JQXZ (so start with something like JOKER).

19 points needed on guess 3

After the second guess, it doesn't appear I have much hope, having only two letters. However, here is where it becomes a math game: I need a total of 19 points, and the P in the first position is a TL and worth 12. Thus, in the other 4 positions I need a total of 7 points --- and with position 4 being a DL this eliminates many words. Math says a 2-point letter in position 4, along with 1-point letters in positions 2, 3, and 5 will get me 7 points.