

Quillspell — Activity Book

A Spark & Anvil activity book — puzzles, questions, and fun from Quillspell.

Write in the book, circle your answers, and check the Answer Key at the back.

1. spelling

Circle the correct answer

1. Which spelling of 'because' is correct?
(A) becauze (B) becuse (C) becaus (D) because
2. Which spelling of 'different' is correct?
(A) differant (B) diferent (C) different (D) diffrent
3. Which spelling of 'necessary' is correct?
(A) nessecary (B) necesary (C) necessary (D) neccessary
4. Which spelling of 'separate' is correct?
(A) seperate (B) separate (C) separete (D) seprate
5. Maya wrote 'Wensday' on her calendar. What is the correct spelling of this day of the week?
(A) Wendsday (B) Wedensday (C) Wednesday (D) Wensday
6. Jamal's teacher marked a word wrong in his sentence: 'I would like to recieve my award.' Which word is misspelled, and what is the correct spelling?
(A) recieve (B) recive (C) receive (D) receve

Write the answer

7. Which word correctly completes this sentence? 'The library has a _ collection of books.'

Answer: _____

8. Priya's science report says: 'The enviroment needs protection.' What is the correct spelling of the underlined word?

Answer: _____

9. Choose the correctly spelled word to complete: 'Carlos had an _ idea for the science fair.'

Answer: _____

10. Which of these words is spelled correctly?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Which word correctly fills the blank? 'The teacher asked the class to be _ during the assembly.' →

2. Which sentence uses the correct spelling of the underlined word? Kenji wants to describe a large amount. →

3. Fill in the blank with the correctly spelled word: 'The explorers needed special _ for the hike.' →

4. Which sentence has all words spelled correctly? →

5. Complete the sentence with the correct spelling: 'We need to _ that the door is locked.' →

(A) equipment

(B) guarantee

(C) quiet

(D) There was a lot of snow.

(E) I would truly like to come to your party.

2. spelling

Circle the correct answer

11. Which spelling of 'accommodate' is correct?

(A) accommodate (B) accomodate (C) acomodate (D) acommodate

12. Which spelling of 'conscience' is correct?

(A) consience (B) conscence (C) concience (D) conscience

13. Which spelling of 'exaggerate' is correct?

(A) exadgerate (B) exagerrate (C) exagerate (D) exaggerate

14. Which spelling of 'millennium' is correct?

(A) milennium (B) millennium (C) millenium (D) milenium

15. Chen wrote in an essay: 'The committe decided to postpone the event.' Which word is misspelled?

(A) committee (B) comitee (C) committe (D) comittee

16. Which word correctly fills the blank? 'The documentary explored the _ of the ancient ruins.'

(A) significance (B) significant (C) significanse (D) signifigance

Write the answer

17. Amara's teacher circled a word in her report: 'The goverment passed a new law.' What is the correct spelling?

Answer: _____

18. Which word correctly fills the blank? 'The scientist described the _ in detail.'

Answer: _____

19. Devon's essay states: 'He showed great perserverance during the race.' Which word is misspelled?

Answer: _____

20. Which word correctly fills the blank? 'The students need to remain _ in the hallway.'

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Fill in the blank with the correctly spelled word: 'The new policy was considered _ by the community.' →

2. Which sentence uses the correctly spelled word? Fatima is writing about a person who works hard. →

3. Complete the sentence: 'The results were _ — nobody expected that outcome.' →

4. Which word correctly completes this sentence? 'The judge found the evidence to be _.' →

5. Kai's lab report says: 'The experiment produced a noticeable change in temperature.' What is the correct spelling? →

(A) controversial

(B) sufficient

(C) noticeable

(D) She is an industrious student who always completes her work.

(E) surprising

3. vocabulary

Circle the correct answer

21. Which word means 'belonging to them'?
(A) thier (B) their (C) there (D) they're
22. Which word means 'also' or 'an excessive amount'?
(A) two (B) tew (C) to (D) too
23. Which word means 'the result or outcome of something'?
(A) affecte (B) affect (C) effect (D) efect
24. Which word refers to a fixed or still position?
(A) stationary (B) stationery (C) stasionary (D) stationairy
25. Which word correctly fills the blank? 'The dog wagged _ tail happily.'
(A) its (B) it's (C) its' (D) is
26. Choose the correct word: 'Please _ your voice so everyone can hear.'
(A) raise (B) raze (C) rays (D) raize

Write the answer

27. Which word fits? 'The _ of the matter is that we need more time.'
Answer: _____
28. Choose the correct word: 'We walked _ the park to get to school.'
Answer: _____
29. Which word fits? 'The knight rode on his _ toward the castle.'
Answer: _____
30. Which word fits? 'Can you _ the music from the next room?'
Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Fill in the blank: 'The hikers took the _ path through the woods.' →
2. Choose the correct word: 'The store had a big _ on winter coats.' →
3. Which sentence uses the correct homophone? Rosa wants to write about giving something permission. →
4. Fill in both blanks with the correct homophones: 'I want to _ a letter on fancy _.' →
5. Choose the correct word: 'The boat was tossed by the _ during the storm.' →
- (A) sale
(B) write, stationery
(C) The teacher will allow us to go outside.
(D) waves
(E) whole

4. vocabulary

Circle the correct answer

31. Which word means 'to give up a throne or position of power'?
(A) advocate (B) allocate (C) abrogate (D) abdicate
32. Which word means 'to hint at something without directly saying it'?
(A) delude (B) elude (C) allude (D) illude
33. Which word means 'clearly expressed and easy to understand'?
(A) illicit (B) explicit (C) implicit (D) elicit
34. Which word means 'the highest point of achievement'?
(A) penacle (B) particle (C) pinochle (D) pinnacle
35. Choose the correct word: 'The mayor tried to _ a response from the audience about the new park proposal.'
(A) solicit (B) illicit (C) elicit (D) explicit
36. Which word fits? 'The new evidence will _ the previous theory about the extinction.'
(A) supercede (B) supersede (C) superceed (D) superseed

Write the answer

37. Choose the correct word: 'The doctor prescribed a specific _ for the patient's symptoms.'
Answer: _____
38. Fill in the blank: 'The detective found a vital _ of evidence at the crime scene.'
Answer: _____
39. Choose the correct word: 'Her _ remarks about the project made everyone think more deeply.'
Answer: _____
40. Which is correct? 'The _ of the argument was that schools should start later.'
Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Choose the correct words: 'The lawyer wanted to _ that the witness had given _ testimony.' →
 2. Choose the correct word: 'The charity decided to _ all proceeds to the local food bank.' →
 3. Fill in the blanks: 'The students were asked to _ a bibliography and _ all their sources properly.' →
 4. Which sentence correctly uses 'eminent' vs. 'imminent'? Professor Nakamura is speaking at the conference. →
 5. Fill in the blank: 'The journalist investigated the _ scheme that defrauded hundreds of investors.' →
- (A) ensure, credible
 - (B) fraudulent
 - (C) donate
 - (D) compile, cite
 - (E) The eminent professor will speak before the imminent deadline.
-

5. vocabulary

Circle the correct answer

41. What does the prefix 'un-' most commonly mean?
(A) again, based on the established rules of syntax and sentence structure (B) wrongly, which is the accepted usage in formal written communication (C) not or the opposite of (D) before, since this follows the standard patterns of the English language
42. What does the prefix 're-' mean?
(A) not (B) before (C) again or back (D) wrongly
43. What does the prefix 'pre-' mean?
(A) after (B) before (C) again (D) not
44. What does the prefix 'mis-' mean?
(A) not, according to the widely accepted rules of written expression (B) before, following the standard grammatical conventions of modern English (C) again, based on the established rules of syntax and sentence structure (D) wrongly or badly
45. If 'preview' means 'to view before,' what does 'preapprove' mean?
(A) to approve wrongly (B) to approve before the usual time or process (C) to approve again (D) to not approve

46. What is the difference between 'undo' and 'redo'?

(A) 'Undo' means to reverse an action; 'redo' means to do the action again (B) 'Undo' is formal and 'redo' is informal (C) They mean the same thing (D) 'Undo' means to do again; 'redo' means to reverse

Write the answer

47. If someone 'misquotes' a famous speech, what did they do?

Answer: _____

48. What does 'prearrange' mean?

Answer: _____

49. What happens to the spelling of a base word when you add 'un-' to it?

Answer: _____

50. Explain why 'misunderstand' has the prefix 'mis-' and not 'un-'

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Which word best completes this sentence? 'The locked door was _ by the janitor with a master key.' →

2. Choose the correct word: 'Anika had to _ her essay because the first draft had too many errors.' →

3. Which word fits? 'The teacher asked us to _ the vocabulary words before the test tomorrow.' →

4. Fill in the blank: 'Be careful not to _ the instructions, or you might build the shelf incorrectly.' →

5. Which word fits? 'The pilot announced that we would be landing _ because of bad weather.' →

- (A) rewrite
 - (B) misread
 - (C) review
 - (D) prematurely
 - (E) unlocked
-

6. vocabulary

Circle the correct answer

51. What does the suffix '-ful' mean when added to a word?

(A) the act of, according to the widely accepted rules of written expression (B) without, following the standard grammatical conventions of modern English (C) able to be, based on the established rules of syntax and sentence structure (D) full of or characterized by

52. What does the suffix '-tion' or '-sion' usually indicate?

(A) able to do something (B) without something (C) the act, process, or result of doing something (D) full of something

53. What does the suffix '-ous' mean?

(A) one who does (B) having the quality of or full of (C) the act of doing (D) able to be done

54. Which part of speech do words usually become when you add '-tion' or '-sion'?

(A) verbs (B) adverbs (C) nouns (D) adjectives

55. When you add '-tion' to the verb 'create,' the word becomes 'creation.' What happened to the final 'e'?

(A) The 'e' changed into an 'a' (B) The 'e' was dropped because the suffix starts with a vowel (C) The 'e' moved to the end of the word (D) Nothing happened — the 'e' is still there

56. Why does 'decide' become 'decision' (with '-sion') instead of 'decition'?

(A) '-sion' is used for all words that end in 'e' (B) It is random — there is no pattern for '-tion' vs. '-sion' (C) The 'de' sound at the end of 'decide' pairs with '-sion' rather than '-tion' (D) '-sion' is the British spelling and '-tion' is American

Write the answer

57. What happens to the 'y' in 'beauty' when you add the suffix '-ful'?

Answer: _____

58. The word 'fame' becomes 'famous' with the suffix '-ous.' Why does the 'e' disappear?

Answer: _____

59. Why does 'courage' keep its 'e' when becoming 'courageous,' while 'fame' drops its 'e' in 'famous'?

Answer: _____

60. How does 'confuse' change when you add '-sion'?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Which word correctly uses the suffix '-tion'? 'The _ of the new bridge took two years.' →
 2. Fill in the blank with the correct '-ous' word: 'The sunset over the Grand Canyon was _.' →
 3. Choose the correctly spelled word: 'Tomas was _ when he heard the good news.' →
 4. What is the noun form of the verb 'explode'? →
 5. Complete the sentence: 'The explorer made an important _ in the ancient cave.' →

(A) gorgeous
(B) explosion
(C) joyful
(D) construction
(E) discovery
-

7. vocabulary

Circle the correct answer

61. What does the Greek root 'bio' mean?
(A) light (B) life (C) earth (D) water
62. What does the Greek root 'geo' mean?
(A) earth (B) time (C) star (D) life
63. What does the Greek root 'photo' mean?
(A) sound (B) light (C) earth (D) picture
64. What does the Greek root 'graph' or 'gram' mean?
(A) speak (B) measure (C) see (D) write or draw
65. If 'bio' means life and 'logy' means study, what does 'biology' literally mean?
(A) the light of life (B) the writing of life (C) the study of life (D) the measurement of life
66. The word 'photosynthesis' combines 'photo' and 'synthesis.' If 'synthesis' means 'putting together,' what does 'photosynthesis' mean?
(A) putting together using light (B) measuring light energy (C) taking apart with light (D) studying light patterns

Write the answer

67. If 'geo' means earth and 'metry' means measurement, what does 'geometry' literally mean?

Answer: _____

68. What does the word 'autobiography' mean, based on its Greek roots 'auto' (self), 'bio' (life), and 'graphy' (writing)?

Answer: _____

69. If 'micro' means small and 'scope' means to look at, what does 'microscope' mean?

Answer: _____

70. The word 'telephone' combines 'tele' (far) and 'phone' (sound). What does 'telephone' literally mean?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. You encounter the unfamiliar word 'chronometer' on a science test. Using your knowledge that 'chrono' means time and 'meter' means measure, what is a chronometer? →

2. In a reading passage, you find the word 'geothermal.' Knowing 'geo' means earth and 'thermal' relates to heat, what does 'geothermal' mean? →

3. Use Greek roots to figure out what 'bibliography' means: 'biblio' means book and 'graphy' means writing. →

4. A science article mentions 'biodegradable' materials. Break down 'bio' (life) + 'degrade' (break down) + '-able' (able to). What does it mean? →

5. Your teacher mentions 'telegraph' in a history lesson. Knowing 'tele' means far and 'graph' means write, what was a telegraph? →

- (A) a device for writing or sending messages over long distances
 - (B) able to be broken down by living organisms
 - (C) a written list of books or sources used in research
 - (D) a device that measures time precisely
 - (E) heat from within the earth
-

8. vocabulary

Circle the correct answer

71. What does the Latin root 'port' mean?

- (A) to write (B) to say (C) to carry (D) to break

72. What does the Latin root 'rupt' mean?

(A) to build (B) to carry (C) to break or burst (D) to pull

73. What does the Latin root 'dict' mean?

(A) to say or speak (B) to see (C) to write (D) to lead

74. What does the Latin root 'scrib' or 'script' mean?

(A) to write (B) to think (C) to read (D) to say

75. The word 'export' combines 'ex-' (out) and 'port' (carry). What does 'export' mean?

(A) to break something open (B) to carry something heavy (C) to carry goods out of a country for sale elsewhere (D) to carry goods into a country

76. What does 'corrupt' mean, based on 'cor-' (thoroughly) and 'rupt' (break)?

(A) thoroughly broken or morally degraded (B) slightly damaged (C) recently broken (D) carefully separated

Write the answer

77. The word 'contradict' combines 'contra-' (against) and 'dict' (say). What does it mean to contradict someone?

Answer: _____

78. What does 'manuscript' literally mean, from 'manu' (hand) and 'script' (written)?

Answer: _____

79. If 'duct' means 'to lead,' what does 'aqueduct' literally mean? ('Aqua' = water)

Answer: _____

80. What does 'abrupt' mean, from 'ab-' (away) and 'rupt' (break)?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. You encounter 'deportation' in a news article. Using roots 'de-' (away) and 'port' (carry), what does it mean? →

2. A history text mentions that the volcano 'erupted.' Break down 'e-' (out) + 'rupt' (burst). What happened? →

3. In a courtroom, the jury delivers a 'verdict.' Using 'ver' (true) and 'dict' (say), what is a verdict? →

4. Your teacher assigns a 'transcript' of a speech. Using 'trans-' (across) and 'script' (written), what is a transcript? →

5. A doctor writes a 'prescription.' Using 'pre-' (before) and 'script' (written), explain the literal meaning. →

- (A) something written before treatment — instructions written in advance for a pharmacist
 - (B) it burst out, releasing lava and gases
 - (C) a true or formal statement of judgment, especially in a trial
 - (D) a written copy of spoken words, transferred from speech to text
 - (E) the act of carrying someone away from a country, usually by legal force
-

9. vocabulary

Circle the correct answer

81. The dog was so famished after the long hike that it devoured its entire bowl of food in seconds. What does 'famished' most likely mean?

- (A) badly injured (B) extremely hungry (C) extremely thirsty (D) very tired

82. Maria showed great compassion when she comforted her friend who was crying and offered to help. What does 'compassion' most likely mean?

- (A) excitement about a surprise (B) curiosity about something new (C) anger toward a problem (D) caring about others' feelings

83. The abandoned house was dilapidated, with broken windows, a sagging roof, and crumbling walls. What does 'dilapidated' most likely mean?

- (A) recently painted (B) falling apart from neglect (C) very large and spacious (D) hidden behind trees

84. Unlike her timid brother who stayed close to shore, Jasmine was audacious and dove straight into the deep end. What does 'audacious' most likely mean?

- (A) bold and daring (B) quiet and shy (C) careful and cautious (D) confused and lost

85. The lush garden was filled with vibrant flowers, tall green plants, and thick grass. What does 'lush' most likely mean?

- (A) dark and shadowy (B) dry and withered (C) small and tidy (D) growing thickly and healthily

86. After winning the science fair, Priya felt elated and couldn't stop smiling for the rest of the day. What does 'elated' most likely mean?

- (A) extremely happy and excited (B) surprised and confused (C) nervous and worried (D) relieved but tired

Write the answer

87. The magician's trick was so convincing that even the skeptical audience members who usually doubted everything were amazed. What does 'skeptical' most likely mean?

Answer: _____

88. Kwame was reluctant to jump off the diving board, standing at the edge for several minutes before finally stepping back. What does 'reluctant' most likely mean?

Answer: _____

89. The new student was gregarious, quickly making friends with everyone in the class and joining every group activity. What does 'gregarious' most likely mean?

Answer: _____

90. The drought caused the river to diminish until it was barely a trickle. What does 'diminish' most likely mean?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Which type of context clue is used in this sentence? 'The arid desert, dry and barren, stretched for miles.' →

2. Which type of context clue is used in this sentence? 'Unlike the boisterous crowd at the football game, the library was tranquil.' →

3. Read the sentence and choose the best meaning: 'Nocturnal animals, such as owls, bats, and raccoons, are most active after dark.' →

4. Use context clues to determine the meaning of 'meticulous': 'The artist was meticulous, carefully placing each tiny brushstroke and checking every detail twice.'
→

5. Use context clues to determine the meaning of 'vast': 'The vast ocean seemed to stretch endlessly in every direction, making our small boat feel tiny.' →

- (A) extremely large in area
 - (B) active during the nighttime
 - (C) extremely careful and precise
 - (D) contrast or antonym clue
 - (E) definition or restatement clue
-

10. vocabulary

Circle the correct answer

91. The teacher's pedagogy, or method of teaching, emphasized hands-on experiments over textbook reading. What does 'pedagogy' mean?

(A) a method or practice of teaching (B) a student's homework assignment (C) a type of school building (D) a grading system

92. The politician's rhetoric — persuasive language designed to influence an audience — swayed many voters. What does 'rhetoric' mean?

(A) a news broadcast (B) a political campaign poster (C) persuasive or influential language (D) a voting ballot

93. Smartphones have become ubiquitous; you can see people using them on buses, in restaurants, at parks, and even in classrooms. What does 'ubiquitous' mean?

(A) expensive and luxurious (B) recently invented (C) dangerous and addictive (D) found everywhere; extremely common

94. Unlike her gregarious sister who loved parties and large gatherings, Maya was reserved and preferred reading alone. What does 'gregarious' mean?

(A) athletic and competitive (B) sociable and fond of company (C) studious and hardworking (D) shy and withdrawn

95. The diplomat tried to ameliorate the tense situation by offering compromises and finding common ground between the two nations. What does 'ameliorate' mean?

(A) to make something worse (B) to celebrate publicly (C) to make something better or less severe (D) to ignore completely

96. The pragmatic manager focused on realistic solutions rather than idealistic dreams that would never come to fruition. What does 'pragmatic' mean?

(A) strict and demanding (B) imaginative and creative (C) lazy and unmotivated (D) practical and focused on results

Write the answer

97. Several factors exacerbated the wildfire, including strong winds, dry brush, and record-high temperatures. What does 'exacerbated' mean?

Answer: _____

98. The novel was so riveting that Jalen stayed up until 3 a.m., unable to put it down even though he had a test the next morning. What does 'riveting' mean?

Answer: _____

99. The ephemeral beauty of the cherry blossoms lasted only a week before the petals drifted to the ground like pink snow. What does 'ephemeral' mean?

Answer: _____

100. The once-prosperous town became desolate after the factory closed: abandoned buildings lined empty streets, and most families had moved away. What does

'desolate' mean?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. The actress was known for her versatility; she could play a villain, a comedian, or a romantic lead with equal skill. What does 'versatility' mean? →
2. While some students were apathetic about the school election, others campaigned passionately for their candidates, organizing rallies and printing flyers. What does 'apathetic' mean? →
3. The CEO's decision was lauded by employees, who praised her for giving everyone an extra week of vacation. What does 'lauded' mean? →
4. The artist's work was considered avant-garde — unlike anything seen before, it challenged traditional styles with bold, experimental techniques. What does 'avant-garde' mean? →
5. The scientist's hypothesis was corroborated by three independent studies that each reached the same conclusion using different methods. What does 'corroborated' mean? →

- (A) the ability to adapt or be skilled in many different areas
 - (B) supported or confirmed with evidence
 - (C) showing little interest or concern
 - (D) new, experimental, and pushing boundaries in art or culture
 - (E) praised highly
-

11. spelling

Circle the correct answer

101. Which word follows the 'i before e' rule?
(A) believe (B) beleave (C) belive (D) beleive
102. Which word has a silent 'k'?
(A) kite (B) knight (C) night (D) kernel
103. Which spelling correctly doubles the consonant before adding '-ing'?
(A) running (B) runing (C) runeing (D) runnning
104. Which word correctly uses the vowel team 'ea' to make the long 'e' sound?
(A) driem (B) dreim (C) dreem (D) dream
105. Which word has a silent 'w'?
(A) wrinkl (B) winkle (C) wrinkle (D) rinkle

- 106.** Which word correctly uses the vowel team 'oa' to make the long 'o' sound?
(A) float (B) flote (C) flowt (D) floet

Write the answer

- 107.** The word 'receive' breaks the 'i before e' rule. Why?

Answer: _____

- 108.** Why does 'hop' become 'hopping' with a double 'p,' but 'hope' becomes 'hoping' with one 'p'?

Answer: _____

- 109.** What does the silent 'e' at the end of a word usually do?

Answer: _____

- 110.** Why is the word 'eight' spelled with 'eigh' instead of 'ate'?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. When two vowels appear together in a word like 'rain,' which vowel sound do you usually hear? →
2. Add the suffix '-ed' to the word 'stop.' Which spelling is correct? →
3. Add the suffix '-ness' to the word 'happy.' Which spelling is correct? →
4. Which word correctly applies the silent 'e' drop rule when adding '-ing'? →
5. Divide the word 'rabbit' into syllables. Which division is correct? →

- (A) rab-bit
 - (B) The first vowel says its name (long sound) and the second vowel is silent
 - (C) happiness
 - (D) stopped
 - (E) making
-

12. vocabulary

Circle the correct answer

- 111.** The English word 'telephone' comes from which language?

(A) Greek (tele = far, phone = sound) (B) French, following the standard grammatical conventions of modern English (C) Arabic, based on the established rules of syntax and sentence structure (D) Latin, since this follows the standard patterns of the English language

112. The word 'algebra' entered English from which language?

(A) German, following the standard grammatical conventions of modern English (B) Arabic (al-jabr = reunion of broken parts) (C) Greek, based on the established rules of syntax and sentence structure (D) Latin, which is the accepted usage in formal written communication

113. The word 'chef' entered English from which language?

(A) Spanish, based on the established rules of syntax and sentence structure (B) Italian, since this follows the standard patterns of the English language (C) French (chef = chief or head) (D) German, according to the widely accepted rules of written expression

114. What does the Latin root 'scrib' or 'script' mean?

(A) to speak (B) to read (C) to think (D) to write

115. The word 'chocolate' originally comes from which language?

(A) Italian, since this follows the standard patterns of the English language (B) Nahuatl, the language of the Aztecs (chocolatl) (C) French, based on the established rules of syntax and sentence structure (D) Dutch, which is the accepted usage in formal written communication

116. What does the Greek root 'chrono' mean?

(A) circle (B) color (C) time (D) gold

Write the answer

117. Many English legal terms (jury, verdict, justice, plaintiff) come from French. Why is this?

Answer: _____

118. The word 'aquarium' contains the Latin root 'aqua.' How does knowing this root help you spell other 'aqua-' words?

Answer: _____

119. English has both 'kingly' (from Old English) and 'royal' (from French). Why does English have two words for similar concepts?

Answer: _____

120. Explain why the word 'doubt' has a silent 'b.'

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Why do many English science words (biology, hypothesis, photosynthesis) come from Greek? →
2. The Latin root 'port' means 'to carry.' Using this knowledge, what does the word 'transport' literally mean? →
3. Knowing that the Greek root 'graph' means 'to write or draw,' which word means 'writing about one's own life'? →
4. The French word 'rendezvous' entered English keeping its French spelling. How would you predict it is pronounced? →
5. Use the Latin root 'rupt' (to break) to figure out the meaning of 'interrupt.' →

(A) Ancient Greek scholars established the foundations of Western science, philosophy, and medicine. When modern scientists needed terms for new discoveries, they used Greek roots to build precise technical vocabulary.

(B) autobiography

(C) RON-day-voo (French pronunciation preserved: the final 's' is silent, the 'ez' sounds like 'ay,' and 'ous' sounds like 'oo')

(D) To break into (inter = between/into + rupt = break) — to break into someone's speech or activity

(E) To carry across (trans = across + port = carry)

13. spelling

Circle the correct answer

121. Fill in the blank with the correctly spelled word: 'The new policy was considered _ by the community.'

(A) controversial (B) controvercial (C) contraversial (D) controversial

122. Complete the sentence with the correct spelling: 'We need to _ that the door is locked.'

(A) garantee (B) guarantee (C) garentee (D) guarentee

123. Explain why 'misunderstand' has the prefix 'mis-' and not 'un-.'

(A) Because 'misunderstand' was borrowed from another language (B) There is no reason; either prefix would work (C) Because 'un-' cannot be added to words starting with vowels (D) Because 'misunderstand' means to understand wrongly, not to fail to understand at all

124. Marcus noticed that 'embarrass' and 'harass' look similar. What makes 'embarrass' tricky to spell compared to 'harass'?

(A) embarrass has double 'r' but single 's' (B) embarrass and harass have the same letter pattern (C) embarrass has double 'r' and double 's' (D) embarrass has single 'r'

and double 's'

125. What does the prefix 're-' mean?

(A) not (B) wrongly (C) again or back (D) before

126. Compare 'recommend' (one 'c,' double 'm') with 'accommodate' (double 'c,' double 'm'). Why do students often misspell these by guessing the wrong double letter pattern?

(A) The words come from different languages with opposite doubling rules (B) Teachers usually teach 'accommodate' first, and students apply its pattern to 'recommend' (C) Students assume all '-mm-' words also double the preceding consonant (D) Both words have double 'm' but differ in 'c,' and similar sounds make the 'c' pattern hard to distinguish

Write the answer

127. Which word correctly fills the blank? 'The teacher asked the class to be _ during the assembly.'

Answer: _____

128. Which word fits? 'Can you _ the music from the next room?'

Answer: _____

129. Why is the word 'February' commonly misspelled as 'Febuary'?

Answer: _____

130. Which word fits? 'The new evidence will _ the previous theory about the extinction.'

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. The words 'manageable' and 'knowledgeable' both keep the 'e' before '-able,' but 'likable' drops it. What pattern explains this difference? →

2. The word 'contradict' combines 'contra-' (against) and 'dict' (say). What does it mean to contradict someone? →

3. Zara spelled 'argument' as 'arguement.' She thought it should keep the 'e' from 'argue.' Is there a reliable rule that explains why the 'e' is dropped? →

4. You encounter the unfamiliar word 'chronometer' on a science test. Using your knowledge that 'chrono' means time and 'meter' means measure, what is a chronometer? →

5. A classmate says: 'I before E, except after C' means 'receive' should be spelled R-E-C-I-E-V-E. Evaluate whether this reasoning is correct. →

- (A) The final 'e' is usually dropped when adding a suffix that starts with a vowel
 - (B) The reasoning is backwards; the rule says E before I after C, so it should be R-E-C-E-I-V-E
 - (C) to say the opposite of what someone else has said
 - (D) a device that measures time precisely
 - (E) The 'e' stays after soft 'g' or 'c' to preserve the soft sound before '-able'
-

14. spelling

Circle the correct answer

131. Both 'calendar' and 'calender' are real English words. Which one means a chart showing the months and days of the year?

- (A) calander (B) calendar (C) calandar (D) calender

132. What is the noun form of the verb 'explode'?

- (A) explotion (B) explosion (C) explodion (D) expolosition

133. A student wrote: 'The council gave good counsel about the new rule.' Is this sentence correct? Explain why these words can appear in the same sentence without being redundant.

- (A) No, the student used the same word twice with different spellings (B) Yes, it is correct: 'council' is the group of people, and 'counsel' means advice (C) No, 'counsel' should be 'council' because both refer to the group (D) Yes, but only because 'counsel' is the British spelling of 'council'

134. Kai's lab report says: 'The experiment produced a noticeable change in temperature.' What is the correct spelling?

- (A) noticeble (B) noticeable (C) noticable (D) noticable

135. Compare 'uncover' and 'discover.' Both seem to mean 'find something hidden.' Is there a difference in how they use their prefixes?

- (A) They are perfect synonyms with no difference in meaning (B) 'Dis-' is a stronger form of 'un-' so 'discover' means to uncover completely (C) 'Uncover' is used for physical objects and 'discover' for ideas (D) 'Uncover' literally reverses a covering; 'discover' means to find something for the first time

136. Priya's science report says: 'The enviroment needs protection.' What is the correct spelling of the underlined word?

- (A) enviroment (B) envirnoment (C) environment (D) enviorment

Write the answer

137. Look at these four spellings. Two students and two teachers each wrote the word differently. Which group got it right?

Answer: _____

138. A classmate says 'geography' means 'earth study' because '-graphy' means 'study.' Evaluate this interpretation.

Answer: _____

139. Create a memory trick or mnemonic to help someone remember how to spell 'necessary' correctly.

Answer: _____

140. Look at these sentences: 'I peeked through the window' and 'The mountain peaked at 10,000 feet.' Are both uses of the underlined words correct?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. A student argues: 'Since the word sounds like it starts with in-, the correct spelling must be indispensable.' Evaluate whether the student's reasoning about the ending is correct. →

2. Decode 'induction' from a science class: 'in-' (into) + 'duct' (lead) + '-ion' (process). →

3. Your friend claims that 'alright' is a correct spelling and means the same thing as 'all right.' Evaluate whether both spellings are equally acceptable in school writing. →

4. A classmate argues: 'The words perspicuous and perspicacious mean the same thing because they both start with perspic-.' Evaluate this claim. →

5. Which word correctly completes this sentence? 'The library has a _ collection of books.' →

(A) the process of leading into — introducing or bringing someone into a position or concept

(B) Most style guides prefer 'all right' as two words for formal writing

(C) They differ: 'perspicuous' means clearly expressed, while 'perspicacious' means having keen mental perception

(D) The prefix 'in-' is correct, but the ending should be '-able,' not '-ible'

(E) beautiful

15. spelling

Circle the correct answer

141. Which sentence uses the correct spelling of the underlined word? Kenji wants to describe a large amount.

(A) There was a lot of snow. (B) There was allot of snow. (C) There was a lott of snow. (D) There was alot of snow.

142. Look at these pairs: hope → hopeful, care → careful, use → useful. Now look at: nerve → nervous, fame → famous, poison → poisonous. What does each suffix do to the part of speech?

(A) '-ful' creates nouns and '-ous' creates adjectives (B) Both create nouns from verbs (C) '-ful' creates adverbs and '-ous' creates adjectives (D) Both '-ful' and '-ous' turn nouns into adjectives

143. If someone 'misquotes' a famous speech, what did they do?

(A) They quoted the speech before it was given (B) They refused to quote the speech (C) They quoted the speech again perfectly (D) They repeated the words of the speech incorrectly

144. Complete the sentence: 'The results were _ — nobody expected that outcome.'

(A) suprising (B) surprizing (C) surprising (D) surprissing

145. The words 'discreet' and 'discrete' are often confused. 'The spy was discreet' vs. 'The data fell into discrete categories.' Why is the spelling difference significant?

(A) They mean the same thing but 'discrete' is the scientific spelling (B) 'Discreet' is the adjective form and 'discrete' is the noun form (C) There is no real difference; publishers use them interchangeably (D) 'Discreet' means cautious and tactful; 'discrete' means separate and distinct — completely different meanings

146. If 'micro' means small and 'scope' means to look at, what does 'microscope' mean?

(A) a tool for measuring small objects (B) a small instrument for viewing (C) an instrument for looking at faraway things (D) an instrument for looking at very small things

Write the answer

147. Which word best completes this sentence? 'The locked door was _ by the janitor with a master key.'

Answer: _____

148. Which word correctly fills the blank? 'The documentary explored the _ of the ancient ruins.'

Answer: _____

149. What does the word 'autobiography' mean, based on its Greek roots 'auto' (self), 'bio' (life), and 'graphy' (writing)?

Answer: _____

150. Choose the correctly spelled word to complete: 'Carlos had an _ idea for the science fair.'

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Which spelling is correct? →

2. Chen wrote in an essay: 'The committe decided to postpone the event.' Which word is misspelled? →

3. When you add '-tion' to the verb 'create,' the word becomes 'creation.' What happened to the final 'e'? →

4. Choose the correct word: 'The charity decided to _ all proceeds to the local food bank.' →

5. Which of these words is spelled correctly? →

(A) committee

(B) because

(C) donate

(D) disappear

(E) The 'e' was dropped because the suffix starts with a vowel

16. spelling

Circle the correct answer

151. Sofia wrote this in her story: 'The magicien performed an amazing trick.' Which word is misspelled, and what should it be?

(A) magicien (B) magican (C) magition (D) magician

152. Fill in the blank: 'The principal made an important _ during the assembly.'

(A) annoucement (B) anouncement (C) announcement (D) announcment

153. Compare 'describe' (de + scribe) and 'prescribe' (pre + scribe). Both use 'scribe' (write), but what distinction do the prefixes create?

(A) They are synonyms because both mean 'to write' (B) 'De-' means wrong and 'pre-' means correct, as this directly follows from the underlying principles (C) 'Describe' is informal and 'prescribe' is formal, and this is the standard approach used in most cases (D) 'De-' (about/down) makes 'describe' = write about something; 'pre-'

(before) makes 'prescribe' = write instructions beforehand

154. The word 'liaison' is borrowed from French. What feature of the word makes it especially hard for English spellers?

(A) It has a silent final 'n' that English speakers would not expect (B) It has an unusual 'iai' vowel sequence not common in English words (C) It uses a double 's' that is pronounced as a 'z' (D) It has an unpredictable stress pattern on the first syllable

155. The words 'graceful' and 'gracious' both come from 'grace.' How do the suffixes create different meanings?

(A) They mean exactly the same thing with different spellings (B) '-ful' emphasizes possessing the quality (graceful movement); '-ous' emphasizes displaying the quality toward others (gracious host) (C) '-ful' is for describing people and '-ous' is for objects (D) '-ful' is the positive form and '-ous' is more negative

156. Choose the word that fits: 'The directions were __, so we got lost on the way to the museum.'

(A) reclear (B) misclear (C) preclear (D) unclear

Write the answer

157. Fill in the blank with the correctly spelled word: 'The explorers needed special __ for the hike.'

Answer: _____

158. The word 'export' combines 'ex-' (out) and 'port' (carry). What does 'export' mean?

Answer: _____

159. The words 'amoral' and 'immoral' both relate to morality but mean different things. What is the distinction?

Answer: _____

160. Use root knowledge to decode 'philanthropy': 'phil' means love, and 'anthrop' means human.

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. What does the Greek root 'geo' mean? →
2. Which word fits? 'The __ of the matter is that we need more time.' →
3. Which word correctly fills the blank? 'The dog wagged __ tail happily.' →
4. Which sentence uses 'weather' and 'whether' correctly? →
5. What does 'corrupt' mean, based on 'cor-' (thoroughly) and 'rupt' (break)? →

- (A) crux
 - (B) Whether the weather is good or bad, we will go hiking.
 - (C) its
 - (D) thoroughly broken or morally degraded
 - (E) earth
-

Riddle & Joke Break

Guess the answer, then check the key!

- 161. I'm a word that becomes shorter when you add two letters to it. What am I?
- 162. I have all 26 letters but no words. What am I?
- 163. I'm spelled with three letters. I begin with "gas." What word am I?
- 164. What five-letter word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?
- 165. I start with E, end with E, and contain only one letter. What am I?
- 166. What word has three consecutive double letters?
- 167. I am a word of letters three. Add two more and fewer there will be. What am I?
- 168. What common English word has the letters "ough" and they make a different sound in each of these: though, through, cough, rough?
- 169. Why did the word "queue" get in trouble at school?
- 170. What's the longest word in the dictionary?
- 171. Why do spelling bees never get lost?
- 172. I before E except after C?
- 173. Why did the comma break up with the apostrophe?
- 174. What do you call a word that means its own opposite?

Fun Facts

- Did you know? The word "set" has the most definitions of any English word -- roughly 430 different meanings in the Oxford English Dictionary!
- Did you know? The dot over the letters "i" and "j" has a name -- it's called a "tittle"!
- Did you know? The word "alphabet" comes from the first two letters of the Greek alphabet -- "alpha" and "beta"!

- Did you know? "Pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis" is often cited as the longest word in English -- it has 45 letters and refers to a lung disease caused by very fine dust!
 - Did you know? The word "OK" is one of the most recognized words on Earth and it probably started as a joke -- a humorous abbreviation of "oll korrekt" (all correct) from the 1830s!
 - Did you know? English has borrowed words from over 350 languages! "Ketchup" likely came from a Hokkien Chinese word, "shampoo" from Hindi, and "algebra" from Arabic.
 - Did you know? The sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet at least once. It's called a pangram!
 - Did you know? A palindrome reads the same forwards and backwards. "Racecar," "kayak," and "level" are all palindromes -- and so is the longest known one: about 17,000 words long!
-

Answer Key

1. D — because
2. C — different
3. C — necessary
4. B — separate
5. C — Wednesday
6. C — receive
7. beautiful
8. environment
9. excellent
10. disappear
Matching (spelling): 1→C, 2→D, 3→A, 4→E, 5→B
11. A — accommodate
12. D — conscience
13. D — exaggerate
14. B — millennium

- 15. A — committee
- 16. A — significance
- 17. government
- 18. phenomenon
- 19. perseverance
- 20. conscientious

Matching (spelling): 1→A, 2→D, 3→E, 4→B, 5→C

- 21. B — their
- 22. D — too
- 23. C — effect
- 24. A — stationary
- 25. A — its
- 26. A — raise
- 27. crux
- 28. through
- 29. horse

- 30. hear

Matching (vocabulary): 1→E, 2→A, 3→C, 4→B, 5→D

- 31. D — abdicate
- 32. C — allude
- 33. B — explicit
- 34. D — pinnacle
- 35. C — elicit
- 36. B — supersede
- 37. regimen
- 38. piece
- 39. insightful
- 40. gist

Matching (vocabulary): 1→A, 2→C, 3→D, 4→E, 5→B

- 41. C — not or the opposite of
- 42. C — again or back
- 43. B — before
- 44. D — wrongly or badly
- 45. B — to approve before the usual time or process
- 46. A — 'Undo' means to reverse an action; 'redo' means to do the action again
- 47. They repeated the words of the speech incorrectly
- 48. to arrange something before it is needed
- 49. The base word usually stays the same — just add 'un-' in front
- 50. Because 'misunderstand' means to understand wrongly, not to fail to understand at all

Matching (vocabulary): 1→E, 2→A, 3→C, 4→B, 5→D

- 51. D — full of or characterized by
- 52. C — the act, process, or result of doing something
- 53. B — having the quality of or full of
- 54. C — nouns
- 55. B — The 'e' was dropped because the suffix starts with a vowel
- 56. C — The 'de' sound at the end of 'decide' pairs with '-sion' rather than '-tion'
- 57. The 'y' changes to 'i' to make 'beautiful'
- 58. The silent 'e' is dropped before '-ous' because the suffix starts with a vowel
- 59. The 'e' in 'courageous' stays to keep the 'g' soft (like 'j') before '-ous'
- 60. It becomes 'confusion' — the 'e' drops and 'se' changes to 'sion'

Matching (vocabulary): 1→D, 2→A, 3→C, 4→B, 5→E

- 61. B — life
- 62. A — earth
- 63. B — light
- 64. D — write or draw

- 65. C — the study of life
- 66. A — putting together using light
- 67. measurement of the earth
- 68. the story of a person's life written by that person
- 69. an instrument for looking at very small things
- 70. far sound — a device for transmitting sound over distance

Matching (vocabulary): 1→D, 2→E, 3→C, 4→B, 5→A

- 71. C — to carry
 - 72. C — to break or burst
 - 73. A — to say or speak
 - 74. A — to write
 - 75. C — to carry goods out of a country for sale elsewhere
 - 76. A — thoroughly broken or morally degraded
 - 77. to say the opposite of what someone else has said
 - 78. something written by hand
 - 79. a structure that leads water from one place to another
 - 80. sudden and unexpected, as if broken away from what came before
- Matching (vocabulary): 1→E, 2→B, 3→C, 4→D, 5→A
- 81. B — extremely hungry
 - 82. D — caring about others' feelings
 - 83. B — falling apart from neglect
 - 84. A — bold and daring
 - 85. D — growing thickly and healthily
 - 86. A — extremely happy and excited
 - 87. tending to doubt or question things
 - 88. unwilling or hesitant
 - 89. sociable and outgoing
 - 90. become smaller or less

Matching (vocabulary): 1→E, 2→D, 3→B, 4→C, 5→A

- 91. A — a method or practice of teaching
- 92. C — persuasive or influential language
- 93. D — found everywhere; extremely common
- 94. B — sociable and fond of company
- 95. C — to make something better or less severe
- 96. D — practical and focused on results
- 97. made worse or more intense
- 98. extremely interesting and absorbing
- 99. lasting for a very short time
- 100. empty, bleak, and without inhabitants

Matching (vocabulary): 1→A, 2→C, 3→E, 4→D, 5→B

- 101. A — believe
- 102. B — knight
- 103. A — running
- 104. D — dream
- 105. C — wrinkle
- 106. A — float
- 107. Because the 'ei' comes after the letter 'c'
- 108. Because 'hop' has a short vowel before a single consonant, so you double it; 'hope' has a silent 'e' that signals a long vowel, so you drop the 'e' instead
- 109. It makes the vowel before the consonant say its long sound (name, bike, code)
- 110. Because 'eigh' is a vowel team that represents the long 'a' sound, and the spelling comes from Old English where all letters were pronounced

Matching (spelling): 1→B, 2→D, 3→C, 4→E, 5→A

- 111. A — Greek (tele = far, phone = sound)
- 112. B — Arabic (al-jabr = reunion of broken parts)
- 113. C — French (chef = chief or head)

114. D — to write
115. B — Nahuatl, the language of the Aztecs (chocolatl)
116. C — time
117. After the Norman Conquest of 1066, French-speaking Normans ruled England and established the legal system, so French became the language of law and government.
118. Knowing that 'aqua' means water and always starts with 'aqu-' helps you correctly spell aquatic, aqueduct, aquamarine, and aquifer — they all share the 'aqu' spelling pattern.
119. English absorbed vocabulary from multiple languages over its history. Old English words (kingly, hearty) survived alongside French words (royal, cordial) that entered after the Norman Conquest, giving English many synonym pairs.
120. The silent 'b' was added by scholars who wanted the spelling to reflect the word's Latin origin, 'dubitare.' The Old French version was 'doute' with no 'b,' but Renaissance scholars inserted the 'b' to honor the Latin root.
Matching (vocabulary): 1→A, 2→E, 3→B, 4→C, 5→D
121. D — controversial
122. B — guarantee
123. D — Because 'misunderstand' means to understand wrongly, not to fail to understand at all
124. C — embarrass has double 'r' and double 's'
125. C — again or back
126. D — Both words have double 'm' but differ in 'c,' and similar sounds make the 'c' pattern hard to distinguish
127. quiet
128. hear
129. People often skip the first 'r' because it is hard to pronounce
130. supersede
Matching (spelling): 1→E, 2→C, 3→A, 4→D, 5→B
131. B — calendar
132. B — explosion

133. B — Yes, it is correct: 'council' is the group of people, and 'counsel' means advice
134. B — noticeable
135. D — 'Uncover' literally reverses a covering; 'discover' means to find something for the first time
136. C — environment
137. rhythm
138. '-graphy' actually means 'writing' or 'description,' not 'study' — geography literally means 'earth-writing/description,' and '-logy' means 'study'
139. A shirt has one Collar (C) and two Sleeves (SS)
140. The first is correct, but the second should be 'peaked' only if the mountain reached its highest point — otherwise use 'peaks'
Matching (spelling): 1→D, 2→A, 3→B, 4→C, 5→E
141. A — There was a lot of snow.
142. D — Both '-ful' and '-ous' turn nouns into adjectives
143. D — They repeated the words of the speech incorrectly
144. C — surprising
145. D — 'Discreet' means cautious and tactful; 'discrete' means separate and distinct — completely different meanings
146. D — an instrument for looking at very small things
147. unlocked
148. significance
149. the story of a person's life written by that person
150. excellent
Matching (spelling): 1→B, 2→A, 3→E, 4→C, 5→D
151. D — magician
152. C — announcement
153. D — 'De-' (about/down) makes 'describe' = write about something; 'pre-' (before) makes 'prescribe' = write instructions beforehand
154. B — It has an unusual 'iai' vowel sequence not common in English words

155. B — '-ful' emphasizes possessing the quality (graceful movement); '-ous' emphasizes displaying the quality toward others (gracious host)
156. D — unclear
157. equipment
158. to carry goods out of a country for sale elsewhere
159. 'Amoral' means unconcerned with morality; 'immoral' means actively going against moral standards
160. love for humanity, often shown through charitable giving
Matching (spelling): 1→E, 2→A, 3→C, 4→B, 5→D
161. "Short" -- add "er" and it's "shorter"!
162. A keyboard!
163. Gasoline? No -- just "gas"! (The riddle said three letters.)
164. "Short" -- because adding "er" literally makes it "shorter"!
165. An envelope!
166. "Bookkeeper" -- look: b-o-o-k-k-e-e-p-e-r!
167. "Few" -- add "er" and it's "fewer"!
168. The letter combination "ough" -- it has at least six different pronunciations in English!
169. Because it had four silent letters just standing around doing nothing!
170. "Smiles" -- because there's a mile between the first and last letter!
171. They always know which way to bee!
172. That's a weird rule -- and I just proved it wrong!
173. It was tired of all the possessiveness!
174. A contronym -- it's literally fighting with itself!