

1. Dial-A-Word

Dial your words on a telephone. If you use a real telephone, make sure that the receiver is down. Say each letter as you dial it.

2. Tape Your Words

Tape record the spelling of your study words. Say each word and then spell it. Play the tape back and check the spelling of each word.

3. Word Scrape

Write each word with a thick crayon.
Go back over each word and gently
scrape each letter with your fingernail
or some other semi-sharp object.

4. Paint Your Words

Paint your words. Make them fancy.

5. Word Trace

Trace your words with your finger on the table or on the chalkboard. Repeat each word twice. Say the letters softly to yourself as you trace them.

6. Cut-Out Letters

Cut letters out of the newspaper or a magazine to spell your study words.
Paste them on a piece of paper.

7. Yarn Words

Glue yarn on pieces of heavy paper so that it spells each of your words. Close your eyes and have a friend hand you the cards one at a time. Feel the yarn spelling on each card. Say the word and spell it.

8. String Beads

String letter beads on a string to spell each word.

9. Sand Words

Write your words in sand. After you have written each word, check to see that you have spelled it correctly. Erase each word and write another one.

10. Exchange List

Exchange study word lists with a friend. Take turns doing the following steps: Close your eyes. Have a friend print each word with his finger on your forehead. Try to guess each word.

11. Blackboard Writing

Stand facing a blackboard and have a friend stand in back of you. Give your friend your study word list. Your friend will draw the letters to spell each word on your back. As he traces the letters on your back, you will write them on the blackboard. When you have finished writing each word, say the word and spell it orally to your friend, who will check the list to make sure that you spelled it correctly.

12. Tile Scramble

Select enough letter tiles to spell all of the spelling words on your list and then add ten other letter tiles. Turn the tiles over so that you cannot see the letters and mix them up. Play spelling solitaire. Turn over the tiles one at a time until you come to a letter which will begin a word or be the next letter in a word which has already been started. The tile should be turned back over if you cannot use it. Lay down the tiles in a vertical line. Continue until you have spelled out all of your words.

13. Select-A-Tile

Select enough letter tiles to spell out all of the spelling words on your list. Place the letters on the floor or tabletop so that the letter side is up. Mix up the letters. Have a friend call out your spelling words one at a time. As each word is called, pick up the letters to spell that word in correct order. Time yourself to see how long it takes you to reorganize the letters of all your spelling words. Make sure you spell each word correctly. Try it again some other day and compare your times.

14. Label Maker

Punch out your study words using a label maker (plastic, self-adhesive strips that affix to paper, etc.).

15. Toothpick Words

Use toothpicks to spell your words. If you wish to have a permanent record of your words, glue the toothpick letters on paper.

16. Eraser Words

Use the eraser on the end of your pencil to erase each of your spelling words onto pictures from old magazines.

17. Test a Friend

Ask one of your parents or an older friend to spell each word on your list. Check each word as they spell it to make sure that they have done it correctly. Give them a hug if they do well.

18. Sidewalk List

Write your study words with chalk on the sidewalk. Make the words big.

19. Finger Paint Words

Cover a piece of paper with finger paints. Roll up your sleeves and begin finger painting your spelling words.

20. Letter Tiles

Use the letter tiles to spell out your spelling words. After you have arranged the letters, check to see that you have spelled them correctly. Cover up each word and try to spell it from memory.

21. Cut Up Words

Write each word with a thick crayon.
Cut out the letters and mix them up.
Rearrange them in the correct order to
spell each word. Paste them on a piece
of paper.

22. Mark a Vowel

Mark the vowels in your words. Mark short vowels and long vowels and cross out any silent letters.

23. Picture Words

Look at your words one at a time. Close your eyes and see if you can picture your word in your mind. If you could not picture the word, open your eyes and look at the word again. Say each letter softly to yourself as you look at it.

24. Configuration Words

Print each of your spelling words.
Then draw around each word. Study
the shape of each word.



maple

26. Look at Words

Look at each word and see if you can do one of the following things:

Can you find smaller words within the word?

Does the word spell anything backwards?

Using the letters of the word, can you make any other words?

live — evil who — how

27. Draw Words

Draw your words in interesting ways that indicate their meaning.

29. Shuffled Word Cards

Write each of your study words on a word card. Cut each card in half or into syllables, using a different cutting pattern or design for each card. Shuffle the pieces and then match each half. Store your Word Card Puzzle pieces in an envelope so you can use them again.

30. Synonym Hunt

Words that mean the same or almost the same thing are called synonyms. Look up each of your study words in the thesaurus. What synonyms can you find for each word? Make a list of two similar words for each word on your list.

31. Cheer Words

Develop a cheer for each of your study words.
Make it snappy, make it catchy, but make sure you
spell out the letters of each word.

32. Crossword Puzzle

Make a crossword puzzle using your study words. Find someone else who is also making a crossword puzzle. Trade and work out each other's puzzle.

33. Word-Find Puzzle

Make a word-find puzzle with a friend. Trade lists of spelling words and use the list to make a word-find puzzle. First write all of the words on graph paper and then fill in around the words with other letters. Trade puzzles, and go to work trying to find the words.

34. Type Words

Type your study words on your typewriter or computer. After typing each word, check to make sure that you have spelled it correctly.

35. Packaged Words

Find as many of your study words on the outside packaging of a product (candy bar wrapper, box of cereal, carton of milk, etc.) as you can. Then do at least one of the following:

- a) Keep the packaging on your desk during the week, so you can periodically review your words.
- b) Use these words to design a new package for your product.
- c) Use these words in a letter you write to the manufacturer of this product.
- d) Cut out the words and paste them on a piece of paper.

36. Secret Word Lists

Trade spelling lists with a friend. Write each other's words in a secret code. (You can make up your own code.) Trade papers and decode the words. Check to make sure your friend spelled the words correctly.

37. Gibberish

Write your study words in “gibberish.” Leave them in your desk or folder for a day or two. Then take out your list and try to separate them into the correct spelling.

How to write your words in “gibberish”:

First, write all of the words together as if they were one big word. If you have a lot of words you may wish to divide them into two or three lines.

Then divide the letters into new words which may or may not make sense.

fish fire eight plant eye

fishfireeightplanteye

fis hfi ree igh tplant eye

38. Connect-A-Word

Write one of your study words on the chalkboard or on graph paper. Now have a friend connect one of his study words, crossword puzzle fashion, to your word. Continue until no more words can be added.

fresh
i
delay
e
follow
a
laugh
k

39. Concentration

Play concentration with a friend. Make duplicate cards of each of your spelling words. Place your cards and your friend's word cards face down on the table or on the floor. Take turns turning over two cards. If the words on the two cards match, you keep the pair. If the words do not match, they are turned face down again and it is your partner's turn to choose two cards. Continue until all of the cards have been removed. The person with the greatest number of paired cards wins the game.

39. Palindrome

A palindrome is a word that is spelled the same backward or forward. *Radar*, *eye*, and *deed* are all palindromes. Spend five minutes trying to come up with as many palindromes as you can. You may keep adding to this list throughout the day (or week). Then share your list with your teacher and friends.

40. Tile Scrabble™

Find one or two friends to play this game with. Separate the Letter Tiles into vowels and consonants. Turn all of the tile letters face down (keeping the groups of Vowels and Consonants separate). The first player draws ten tiles from the consonant group and five from the vowel group. He tries to form a word from his word card stack. One point is scored for each letter used. If the word is misspelled, the player receives no points. After he has attempted his word list, all letters are returned to the separate piles and it is the next player's turn.

51. Parts of Speech

Decide what part of speech each of your study words is. Then do one of the following for each word:

Adjective or adverb — what would you describe with this word? Find at least three things you can describe. What is the comparative and superlative of each word?

Verb — Find a describing word. What are the other tenses of the word? Add a suffix or prefix. How does it change the meaning?

Noun or pronoun — Is it a person, place, or thing? Is it singular or plural? What would its other form (singular or plural) be?

52. Classify Words

Classify your study words according to syllables.

one

cat

pet

two

brother

ego

three

optical

elastic

53. Possessive Nouns

Make each noun on your list possessive.

dog dog's

54. Root Words

Look for the root words within your spelling words.
Circle the root words.

55. In the News

Make a list of the words used in your last testing session (the Group List). Find each of these words in today's newspaper. Circle or highlight each of them, every time they are used. Put a tally mark next to the word each time you locate it. Now make a graph, showing the frequency of use of each of the words.

56. Adjectives

Write an adjective with as many of your study words as possible. Try to use the less commonly used adjectives.

76. Acrostic

Make up acrostics using as many of your study words as possible. You may use a word more than once, but only once in each acrostic.

Laughter	Forever
Imagination	Alive
Fun	In
Energy	Thy
	Heart

77. Anagrams

An anagram is formed when the letters in a word are transposed to form a new word.

large: regal, glare

eat: ate, tea

late: tale, teal

list: slit, silt

lead: deal, dale, lade

See how many anagrams you can make using your study words.

78. Suffixes

Add as many different suffixes to each of your study words as you can think of. When finished, check your work in the dictionary.

100. Circle the Vowels

Look at all of your spelling words and find all the cases where two letters come together and make one sound. Circle the two letters.

101. Rhyme List

Make a list of words that rhyme with each of your study words, then write rhyming verses for each pair.

102. Irregular Plurals

Find as many irregular plurals as you can in the Sunday paper or a favorite magazine. Make a master list of the irregular plurals you have found. You may work with a friend and continue building your irregular plurals list all week.

103. Compound Antonyms

Working alone or with a partner, make lists of compound words that are antonyms, such as: within-without.

104. Contraction Rewrite

Select any story from your daily newspaper or a favorite magazine. Rewrite the story using contractions wherever possible. (Note: The teacher may wish to select the story so that an answer key may be created.)

105. Newspaper Titles

Cut out a newspaper or magazine article that contains titles used before names. Underline the capital letters and circle periods in title. (Note: The teacher may wish to select the story so that an answer key may be created.)

106. Suffix-a-tion

List all the words you can think of in five minutes that end in the suffixes “ion” or “tion.” (This can be done with any suffix or prefix.)

400. Silly Sentences

Using the beginning letter of each word, write same-letter sentences.

“Susan sent seashells to sailors swiftly.”

401. Sentence Writing

Write sentences using your study words. Use as many of the words as possible in each sentence. Try to keep the number of sentences as low as possible.

402. Story Writing

Write a story using your study words. Be sure the story has a good plot, but select one which makes use of all the words.

403. Write A Story

Write a story using your study words. After you have written a story, go back to proofread the story and try to find each word. Be sure that you have spelled each one correctly.

404. 10-Word Story

Write a story using at least ten words you have studied since the last review test. Here's the catch: You must select the words before you begin writing.

405. Word Rhyme

Make a short rhyme for each of your study words. Do you see any similarities between your spelling words and each of the rhyming words?

406. Poetry

Write a poem using your spelling words. Play with the sounds in the words in order to make an almost musical or artistic quality to your poem.

407. Riddles

Write riddles using the words from your spelling list. Words may be in either the riddle or its solution.

408. Months and Holidays

Write the names of the months and list the holidays or holy days which occur during each month. Now choose your favorite month and holiday and describe it, as well as tell why you like it.

409. Capitals

Choose any subject you wish to write a paragraph about. When you write your paragraph, use as many capitalized words as possible.

410. Sudden, Plus

Write as many phrases as you can think of in five minutes using sudden, such as sudden noise. (May be played with any adjective.)

411. Simile

Write a simile (using the word **like** to compare two things) that contains alliteration (repetitions of the same sounds) for each of your spelling words. You may find the dictionary or thesaurus helpful.

Here are two samples of alliterative similes:

Melba's mediocre metaphor is **like** mustard minus its tang.

Sol's scintillating simile cut **like** a sickle.

412. *TV Guide Story*

Write a story based on a movie synopsis found in a movie or TV guide. Try to include at least your last ten study words in your story. After you have written the story, go back and look for your study words. Underline each word. Double-check that you spelled them correctly.

600. Alphabetical

Put your words in alphabetical order.

(Student must be able to alphabetize beyond third letter to complete this activity.)

601. Word Meaning

Find the meaning of each of your study words. If there is more than one meaning, write the most common meaning.

602. Word Definition

Write your own definition for each word. Then look up the word in the dictionary to see if you are right.

603. Phonetic Spelling Codes

Each dictionary entry word is followed by a respelling, in parentheses, which shows how to pronounce the entry word. It is made up of phonetic symbols. Each of these represents one sound in the word. The pronunciation key at the beginning of the dictionary tells what sound each symbol represents. Trade study lists with a friend. Write each other's study words in dictionary respelling form. When you trade back lists, try to decode each word into its regular spelling.

604. Entry Word Search

Words defined in a dictionary are entry words, listed in alphabetical order. Guide words are the two words found at the top of a dictionary page that tell the first and last word on that page. Find the entry words for each of your study words in the dictionary. Make a list of the guide words that are found on the dictionary page for each of your study words.

605. Phonetic Spelling Codes

Each dictionary entry word is followed by a respelling, in parentheses, which shows how to pronounce the entry word. It is made up of phonetic symbols. Each of these represents one sound in the word. The pronunciation key at the beginning of the dictionary tells what sound each symbol represents. Write your study words in dictionary respelling form. Set them aside for an hour or day, then try to decode them into the regular spelling.

607. Dictionary Origins

Look in the dictionary for the origin of your words. Either write the origin for each word or categorize the words according to origin.

608. Etymology

A dictionary entry may include a word history or etymology. Etymologies appear in brackets. Write the etymologies for each of your study words.

Example: Sandwich [John Montagu, Earl of Sandwich, 1718–1792, supposedly the inventor]

609. Acronyms

The word BASIC is an acronym. It is formed from the first letters of the words “Beginner’s All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code.”

a. Try to figure out the acronym for each word group below. Check your answer in an unabridged dictionary.

1. Women’s Army Corps
2. Zone Improvement Plan (-code)
3. Radio detecting and ranging
4. Self-contained, underwater breathing apparatus

b. Try to make as many acronyms as you can using your study words.

610. Antonym Hunt

Antonyms are words that mean the opposite of each other. Write an antonym for each of your study words. Check your words in the dictionary or thesaurus.

800 Fill a Blank

(After Level A)

1. Mary was _____ pleased with her ability to _____ . (so, sew, sow)
2. Would you _____ like a ride _____ school, _____? (two, to, too)
3. I would like _____ pancakes _____ my brothers. (four, for)
4. John went _____ to get _____ car. (there, their)

801. Arrow Match Up (After Level B, Group 10)

Draw a line to connect the homophone pairs. The first one is done for you.

blue	night
right	read
week	blew
maid	write
red	weak
knight	made

802. Pick One (After Level C, Group 10)

For each of the following sentences, underline the homophone that makes the most sense in the sentence.

1. The tugboat blew (its, it's) whistle.
2. We will go by (plane, plain) to Denver.
3. He (eight, ate) pancakes for breakfast.
4. The cowboy (road, rode) his horse to town.
5. John (through, threw) the ball to Mary.

803. Mix and Match (After Level D)

The six word pairs below are homophones. These are words that sound the same, but are spelled differently and have different meanings.

wait, weight

hay, hey

bye, buy, by

plain, plane

Choose the correct homophone to complete each of the sentences from this list.

1. I could not _____ to go to the store.
2. My sheep love new _____.
3. Will you _____ a new book _____ Tuesday.
4. Please, put it in a _____ wrapper.

804. Mixed Up Story (After Level E)

Find each of the homophones in the following story. Write each homophone on a sheet of paper. Next to it write what it means.

Angie moved at a fast gait. She had to hurry to meet her friend. If she was late there would be no peace. The thought brought a tear to her eye. She would rather die than fight with her friend.

805. Circle and Write (After Level F)

Circle the homophone in each sentence. On a sheet of paper write a sentence using its homophone mate.

1. Suzy yelled, "Hit the brake!"
2. The cupboards were bare.
3. Please pay your fare quickly.
4. I would like a new pair of shoes.
5. Someone your age is considered your peer.

806. Meaning Mates (After Level G)

Match each of the words to the phrase that tells what it means.

mane	—	a metal material
mail		contraction for it is
lead		horse's hair
steel		letter
it's		take charge

901. Pick an Error (D-12)

Directions: Decide which underlined word is spelled wrong. If all words are spelled correctly, fill in the space that goes with the word "None."

- | | | |
|---|------|---|
| 1. <u>Yesturday</u> we <u>visited</u> the new building. | None | |
| A | B | C |
| 2. What in the <u>werld</u> were you <u>thinking</u> ? | None | |
| 3. My <u>silvor</u> necklace is <u>broken</u> . | None | |
| 4. I'd like a <u>differant</u> kind of <u>cake</u> . | None | |
| 5. My <u>brother</u> is in <u>furst</u> grade. | None | |

902. Choose an Answer (G-29)

Directions: Choose the word that is spelled correctly and best completes the sentence.

1. The food at summer camp was _____.
A. horribal B. horrible
C. horribul D. horribel
2. I earned twelve _____ cleaning the car.
A. nickles B. nickuls
C. nickels D. nickals
3. My favorite _____ will visit next week.
A. uncal B. uncul
C. uncol D. uncle

903. Messed-Up Story

Directions: The paragraphs below contain many errors. Rewrite them on your own paper. As you rewrite, correct the errors.

The president of the united states is William Jefferson Clinton. President Clinton is the 46th presadent of our country. He was alected presedent the furst time in 1992. He is now serveing his secound term as our president.

Mr. Clinton was boren in Arkansas. He lived their all his life. His hometown is Hope, AR. Well, he is president he lives in the White Horse in our nations capital.