

CREATIVE &

LINGUISTIC SPELLING

- Like Maths, Spelling is not for everyone. Consequently teaching it as an end in itself, will result in failure. To teach it as a medium to develop skills like looking, seeing and remembering, we're talking about real education.

That means that copying word lists four times a week with a test on Friday to see how many wrong is now an obsolete activity.

As a chore, it cannot possibly create interest and therefore learning.

- The only systematic way to teach the erratic spelling of English words is to subdivide them into groups with the same pattern:

Example

fraught	slaughter	draught	haughty	naughty
daughter	distraught	laughed	caught	taught

- Since the brain cannot absorb pure data, they can only be remembered when they appear in an easy to visualise context in rhyme and rhythm. **Chorus Reading** will reinforce recall of the often absurd mini-stories. This unique method appeals to children because they are genetically wired to be curious.

Fraught with danger

A butcher wanted to slaughter the old draught horse of his haughty, naughty daughter. She was so distraught that she wanted to jump into the water. Her father laughed and caught her so that taught her a lesson.

Improve your spelling

P.H.D CRAP

Spelling is not easy in English because words are not always spelled as they are pronounced. With only 26 letters in the alphabet and approximately 45 basic sounds, one is bound to have trouble in representing the spoken word in a written form. Because of the deficiency of the alphabet, a single letter is often called upon to represent a variety of sounds, as for instance the letter *a* is doing in *hat*, *day*, *call*. A more famous example is *bough*, *cough*, *sought*, *thorough*, *though*, *tough*, *through*, where the letters *ou* represent seven totally different sounds.

To complicate the matter, the opposite is also frequently true: one sound is spelled in a number of different ways. You might think, for example, of the middle sound in *piece*, *queen* and *team*. The same sound is also spelled *i* in *machine* and *e* in *intervene*.

Then again, some letters serve no real purpose at all. *Q*, for example, could be discarded quite readily because it only serves the same function as *kw* (quick=*kw*ick); and *x* could be replaced by *ks* (box=*b*oks).

There are other examples of discrepancies between pronunciation and spelling. For example, in the five simple words *parade*, *sicken*, *clarity*, *melon* and *focus*, the same pronunciation [ə] is represented by five different vowels: *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, *u*. And in the following eight words, the sound [ā] is spelled in eight entirely different ways: *stage*, *rain*, *gauge*, *day*, *matinee*, *break*, *vein*, *they*.

The most frequently misspelled words

This section concentrates on everyday words that cause more than 80 per cent of all spelling errors. Perhaps the four words which cause most difficulty are *all right*, *coming*, *receive* and *separate*.

For school children, the most frequently misspelled word might be any of these four or *bicycle*, *description*, *really*, *similar* or *writing*.

For office workers, secretaries and businessmen, the culprit may be *advertisement*, *correspondence*, *definite*, *effect*, *an envelope* or *recommend*.

Housewives may find trouble with *handkerchief*, *pigeon*, *receipt* or *sieve*.

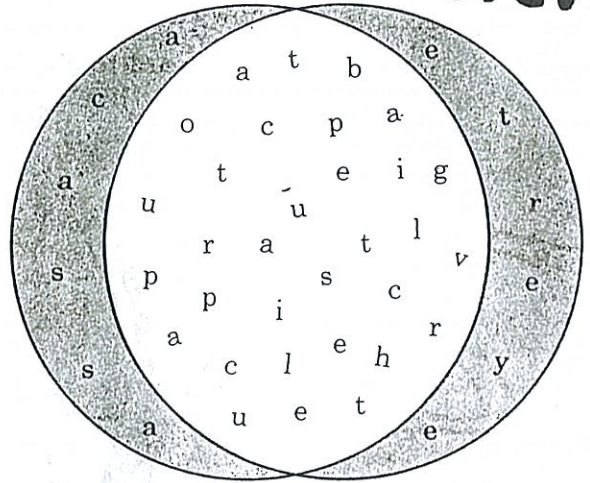
Review these words and the following lists. Learn the words which cause you difficulty.

TELLING IS NOT TEACHING

ACCEPTED BY THE BOARD OF STUDIES! LINGUISTIC FOISON! PROTEST!!! THE "PROFESSOR" POINTS OUT THE PROBLEM. BY USING PUZZLES, WE THEN HAVE 2 SETS OF PROBLEMS!

Six words from the list are hidden in the football. However, the letters that begin and end the words are shown around the edges of the football. Find the six list words.

SICK



Find the hidden words ending in *y* in the square. List them in your exercise book and then make them plural. There are eleven words.

F	A	M	I	L	Y	B	E
A	X	A	B	C	D	S	K
C	H	E	R	R	Y	Q	G
T	Z	W	X	A	T	L	M
O	Y	V	B	I	J	V	W
R	V	B	Q	L	O	O	O
Y	M	N	U	W	C	I	T
C	S	T	L	A	K	S	K
I	D	U	T	Y	E	P	O
K	I	D	N	E	Y	Y	W

In this puzzle there are fifteen hidden words, each with a silent letter. Can you find them? Write them in your exercise book.

PAIR KIDS!

H	O	N	E	S	T	S	T	U
X	K	S	P	L	L	S	T	U
Q	N	X	Y	I	A	G	H	Q
Z	E	Z	M	G	M	N	O	J
N	E	I	G	H	B	O	U	R
E	I	G	H	T	Z	M	G	A
H	J	R	O	Q	Z	E	H	C
A	B	R	S	Q	W	R	I	T
L	I	S	T	E	N	F	G	H
F	O	L	K	N	O	C	K	J

CREATIVE & LINGUISTIC SPELLING 1.

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A. BARK 2017

1. Prevention is better than cure

the	he	her	here	there	where
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He is with her in here and there, so where are they?

fool	school	cool	pool	stool
-------------	---------------	-------------	-------------	--------------

The fool jumped from a stool on top of the school into the cool swimming pool.

school	chemist	Christian	church
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Chris goes to the school between a church and a Christian chemist.

all	ball	wall	mall	fall
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We will all throw the ball over the wall in the mall without letting it fall.

eyes	see	peek	peer	seek	weep
-------------	------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

Eyes are used to see, to have a peek, to peer, to seek and to weep.

Body language

eye	cheek	teeth	knee	heel	feet
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Below your eyes are your cheeks, teeth, knees, heels and feet.

clown	down	town	brown	gown
--------------	-------------	-------------	--------------	-------------

The clown went down town in his brown gown.

Jack	back	hack	track
-------------	-------------	-------------	--------------

Jack went around the track bare back on his hack.

dell	fell	well	yell
-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

The farmer in the dell fell into a well. Nobody heard him yell.

fat	father	rather
------------	---------------	---------------

Pat rather goes out with her fat father which doesn't bother her mother.

I go	he	I do	she	we	they
	goes		does	do	do

If I go and he goes, she will do too because she always does.

other	another	mother	brother
smother			

Some mothers almost smother their little sons because they love one another. Other mothers and their brothers can't be bothered.

girls	chirp	birds	flirt	shirts
skirts	first	third	thirsty	drink

Girls chirp like birds and flirt with boys. They wear shirts and skirts. In a race, they can come first or third. They drink when thirsty.

some	come	do	done	go	gone
-------------	-------------	-----------	-------------	-----------	-------------

Some come to me to do some sums. When it's done they all go, so they're gone.

that's	that is	don't	do not
didn't	did not	wasn't	was not

I didn't do it. I don't believe you. I wasn't here.
That's not true.

Sun	Sunday	Moon
Monday	Woden	Wednesday

Tuesday is Marsday. Thursday (Thor) is thunderday. Friday is Freya'sday. Saturday is Saturn day.

poor	no	pour	out	spout
	money			

Honey has no money; she's too poor to buy an umbrella to protect herself when rain is pouring out of the heavenly spout.

monkey	donkey	kidney
Sydney	honey	money

A monkey and a donkey with one kidney went to Sydney to buy honey for their money.

air	mail	sail	rail
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Mail can go by rail, sail or as airmail.

plump	mumps	dump	jump
pump	hump	rump	

A plump camel with mumps came to the dump and jumped over the fence to pump up the hump on its rump.

Bill	will	still	ill	dill	silly	hill	kill
-------------	-------------	--------------	------------	-------------	--------------	-------------	-------------

Bill will still be very ill. The silly dill jumped from a high hill, so he almost killed himself.

star	far	car	tar	char	bar
-------------	------------	------------	------------	-------------	------------

The film star with charcoal coloured hair didn't get far because she drove off the tar in Malabar.

our	favourite	flavour	odour	colour
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Our mother's favourite flavour, odour and colour.

australia	automatic	autumn
because	august	

In Australia, August is in autumn because then we have gusty winds and autumnal rain.

Cain	chain	rain	Spain	again	train
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Cain broke his bike chain when it was raining so he went back to Spain again by train.

happy	they	city
happier	their	citizen

They are happy to live in Hawkesbury City. Their relatives in the Simpson Desert would also be happier citizens.

saw	paw	claw	maw
gnaw	raw	slaw	awful

I saw the paw, the claw, the maw gnawing to turn meat into coleslaw. Awful!

took	look	cook	book
-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

Brook took a quick look at her cookbook.

day	May	bay	dray	sway	hay
------------	------------	------------	-------------	-------------	------------

One Monday in May, on the way to Byron Bay, we lost our hay because the dray started to sway.

good	hood	wood	stood
-------------	-------------	-------------	--------------

Mr Good stood in Eastwood without his hood.

u-turn	urn	burn
hurt	burly	nurse

“Turn off the urn but don’t burn yourself because that hurts,” said the burly nurse.

My Easter bun looks sunburnt.

engine	medicine	discipline	aborigine
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When your engine stops, give it some petrol(petroleum); it’s the best medicine!

Aboriginal means from the beginning.

Origin-original-originally.

Nullarbor Plain means no(nil) trees.

Relate: arboreal, Arbor Day.

Disciple – discipline

hot	chocolate
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Kate ate a whole bar of chocolate.

head	ear	hear	heard
deaf	breath	heart	beat

Your ears are on either side of your head so that you can hear. If you can’t, you’re deaf. Yesterday, I heard that if you don’t breathe because you’re

breathless, your heart stops beating. In that case you're dead.

learn	read	clearly	earn	teacher
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If you want to learn to read clearly and earn good marks, you'll need a good teacher.

Duchess	such	each	which
rich	sandwich	much	

Duchess Such and Such is not rich so each day, she only eats one sandwich, which is not much.

brittle	little	skittle
kettle	settle	settler

My little sister played with her skittle. Suddenly it broke because it was too brittle. Then she settled down and put water in a kettle.

true	sue	blue	glue	clue
-------------	------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

Is it true that Sue turned blue when she sniffed glue? I haven't got a clue!

say-said	pay-paid	lay-laid	maid
afraid	air raid		staid

The staid maid said that she was afraid that she wouldn't get paid for the carpet she laid during an air raid, so she dragged it away with the aid of her braid!

boat	boast	oak	coast
toast	board	soak	

A boatman boasted that he could row an oaken bucket along the coast while eating a roast on toast. When he fell overboard, he got soaked.

would	could	should	you
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If you would and you could, you should.

doctor	motor	sure
cure	endure	obscure

The doctor wasn't sure if he could cure the patient's enduring, obscure illness. He goes to the hospital on a motorbike. She likes his hospitable hospitality.

read	head	dead	instead	homestead
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I read that the headmaster was found dead instead of alive under his bedspread in his

homestead. The master died faster than we thought.

Note: SMART words (see Bark's spellaphone book 1) have no R when they can be pronounced as TAN ones (American)

less	mess	guess	dress	press	stressed
-------------	-------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	-----------------

I **guess** that **Bess** was more or **less** in a **mess** when she couldn't get **dressed**. I read in the local **press** that she was **stressed**.

ever	never	every
everything	everyone	everywhere

Whenever **everything** and **everyone** **everywhere** causes problems, there will **never ever** be a way that will solve them all.

prevent	prevention	invent	invention
----------------	-------------------	---------------	------------------

Someone needs to **prevent** the loss of this **invention**.

2. This morning

3. On the way home from school

popular	popularity	people	plebs
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Popular **people** (**plebs**) enjoy **popularity**.

ibis	mantis	tennis
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An ibis and a praying mantis don't play tennis which is a sport for people.

bound	around	found	hound
pound	sound	round	ground

We found a greyhound with a leash around its neck in the playground. It didn't make a sound so we took it to the pound.

food	mood	lone	alone	lonely	only
-------------	-------------	-------------	--------------	---------------	-------------

Lonely Mrs Gallstone was not only alone but also in a bad mood because she had no food.

our	neighbour	eight
neigh	rein	harbour

Our neighbour keeps eight neighing reindeer under the Harbour Bridge.

have	shave	Dave	rave	gave
-------------	--------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

Don't rant and rave, Dave! Have a shave with the razor I gave you.

ice	rice	mice	slice	nice	lice
------------	-------------	-------------	--------------	-------------	-------------

Mr Iceberg keeps ricebirds and mice. They share one slice of bread per day. They are nice, but they all have lice.

to	do	zoo	too	two	twelve	twenty
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If you have nothing to do, you can come to the zoo too at two.

What you can eat		breakfast=break fasting	
tea	bread	cereal	meat
veal	cream	steak	beans
peas	pears	peaches	peanut
wheat	yeast	meadow	lea

I love eating pears and peaches with ice cream.

soft	softer	often
stutter	butter	clutter

My mother often likes to soften the butter. If it clutters, she stutters.

hunch	bunch	crunch	lunch
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I have a hunch that the bunch of you want a crunchy bun for lunch.

soon	moon	bower
tower	shower	flower

Very soon, during full moon, bower birds will build their bowers near the water tower where autumnal showers grow flowers.

builder	fruit	juice
biscuit	suit	cruise

During a cruise, a builder spilt fruit juice and crunchy biscuit on his good suit; what a nuisance!

indeed	need	feed	seed
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There is indeed a need for birds to feed on seed not on weed or reeds.

white	while	turnstile	Nile
--------------	--------------	------------------	-------------

Fred Nile turned white when he had to wait a while before going through the turnstile.

told	old	bold	cold
-------------	------------	-------------	-------------

I was told that old people are not bold enough to drink ice cold water.

batch	catch	latch	hatch
patch	catch	snatch	thatch

Mrs Thatcher went to her vegetable **patch** to pick a **batch** of beans. Then she undid the **latch** of the **hatch** that locked the food box before trying to **catch** the rat tried to **snatch** one of her socks. When the **vegetables** were cooked, she put them on the **table**.

bull	full	pull	push	bush	put
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“The **bull** is too **full** to **pull** or **push** the cart out of the **bush**, so you had better **put** him away in the manger;” said the **bush**ranger to the stranger.

Note: manger=to eat (French!)

swan	want	wash	warm	water
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The **swan** **wanted** to **wash** itself with **warm water**.

chop	stop	drop	mop	hop	top	shop
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Mr Lamb**chop** suddenly **stopped**, **dropped** his mop and then **hopped** onto the **top** shelf in his **shop**.

cast	fast	last	mast
past	vast	blast	

According to the **last** forecast, fast winds will **blast** over a **vast** area at half **past**. Many sailing boats are expected to lose their **mast**.

Note: No R when they can be pronounced as “Tan” Words.

art	cart	star	sharp
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Only real stars know the art of driving a go-cart around sharp bends.

you	your	thought	brought	bought
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I **thought** that **you** and **your** cousin would have **brought** the bike you **bought**.

myself	himself	herself
ourselves	themselves	

We were enjoying ourselves.

two	twelve	girls	bird	chirp
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Two girls discovered **twelve** chirping **birds** in **one** bird’s nest.

cover	lover	plover	glover
Dover	clover	rover	over

Mrs Glover and her lover put a cover over the plover. The wild rover went over to Dover to get clover.

bloke	woke	spoke	joke
smoke	stroke	choke	

An old bloke woke me up to tell a joke. While he spoke, he had a smoke. I nearly had a stroke because I choked.

hurry	hurried	story	stories
glory	glorious	they	their

They hurried home to tell their glorious stories to their parents. It is not easy for a single parent to pay rent.

bear	pear	wear	tear
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Bears like pears, they don't wear underwear; they would tear it.

sing	singing	bring	bringing
long	longer	linger	

While the king was singing, the queen cut his finger nails because they got longer and longer.

snow	show	blow	crow	know
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The wind caused the snow-white show tent to blow up faster than a flying crow. Now I know!

blew	few	mew	flew	view
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The wind blew so hard that a few mews flew quickly out of view.

wait	gait	strait	bait
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A waiter walked with a funny gait, that's why it took a year to go from Cairns to Bass Strait to buy bait.

groom	room	broom	bloom	gloom
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Before the wedding, the bride and the groom swept the honeymoon room with a new broom and then bought flowers in bloom that kept it free from gloom when they slept.

Sweep-swept, keep-kept, sleep-slept

warm	swarm	swan	dawn
swallow	follow	hollow	

A **swarm** of **swallows** followed the **swan** when it **swam** towards its hollow hole to keep **warm** till **dawn**.

age	cage	page	rage	wage
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Mr **Cage** gave **Page** her **wage** and then engaged the clutch of his **age**-old **stage** coach.

cockroach	broach	poach	toast	road
loaf	oats	broad	soak	

Mrs **Cockroach** and her **coach** went down the **road** and brought back a **loaf** of bread, a packet of **oats** and some **broad** beans. They **soaked** the beans, **poached** two eggs and then **broached** a cask of wine to wet their throats while eating **roast** on **toast**.

Joe	does	goes	shoes	toes
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Joe **doesn't** wear **shoes** whatever he **does** or wherever he **goes**; they hurt his **toes**; especially when he has to pick **tomatoes**.

act	fact	action
faction	satisfaction	

If there is no action or reaction, there won't be any satisfaction.

cow	how	now	row	sow	wow	brow
------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	-------------

The **cow** and the **sow** had a **row** so **now** they have a thick **eyebrow**.

low	mow	know	row	sow
tow	blow	throw	slow	

I am **sure** that the **pressure** of the tyres of your **mower** and **tow** truck is too **low**, that's why they go so **slow**. You either **blow** them up or **throw** them away otherwise you can't **sow** **rows** of **potatoes**.

give	live	liver	river	shiver
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If you want to **live** longer and stronger, don't jump into the **river**. It will **damage** your **liver** and **give** you the **shivers**! At our **age**, we should have the **advantage** and the **courage** (French) to **manage** (French: from **main**=hand. **Relate**: **maintain**)

o ther	a n o ther	m o t her	b ro t her
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Every Monday, some mothers and brothers help one another to drive other mothers and brothers.

o ur	c o l our	o do u r	f lavo u r	f avo u r
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Our favourite flavour, odour and colour.

c alf	h alf	b ehalf
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On the farmer's behalf, we will sell his calf.

(Dutch: half, kalf; all letters are pronounced)

a l t hough	r ough	t ough	e nough
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Although you are rough, you are not tough enough.

b e	b een	k een	s een	p reen
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Teenage girls preen themselves because they have always been keen to be seen as if on screen between six and six fifteen.

t old	o ld	h old	g old	c old	s old
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I was told that Mr Old could hold a hot bullion of gold until it was cold or sold.

head	bread	dread
ready	already	steady

Bill **Breadcrumb** could already read when he was four but he could never keep his head steady.

Isn't that **dreadful**?

Note: crumb**b**-crumble-crumb**l**ing.

heath	heather	feather	leather
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Feathered birds on the heath like to hide in the heather because it is softer than leather.

wh ether	wether	tether	together
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Can you check **whether** the wethers are tethered together?

h eal	w e al	s teal
h ealth	w e alth	s tealth

Mrs Stealty was hale and hearty which means she was strong and healthy. Unfortunately, she was not wealthy.

g race	p lace	r ace	p ace	b racelet
---------------	---------------	--------------	--------------	------------------

Grace Bracelet got first place in a horse race because of its fast **pace**.

load	road	toad	coal
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A truck driver dumped a **load** of **coal** onto the **road** and only just missed a jumping **toad**.

drover	over	people	stove	oven
---------------	-------------	---------------	--------------	-------------

Drovers are **people** who cook their meals with meat **over** a campfire, not on **stoves** with **ovens**.

fight	light	might	night
right	sight	plight	

Mr **Goodnight** was in a terrible **plight**. During a domestic **fight** by candle **light**, he lost his eyesight. You're **right**! He **might** have lost his life and wife.

bronchi	bronchial	chemist
hospital	hospitality	hospitable

Bronchitis is an inflammation (flame, flammable) of the **bronchial** tubes. You have to either go to a **chemist** or a **hospital**.

ready	dear	hear	deaf	heart	beat
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Are you **ready** to go? **Dear** me. I didn't **hear** you. I must be **deaf**; I can hardly **hear** my **heartbeat**!

oak	coat	rinse	we	answered
------------	-------------	--------------	-----------	-----------------

While Sue **soaked** her **coat**, she brushed her teeth and rinsed her mouth. When she asked us a question, **we** answered.

eight	weight	freight	neigh	height
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The **freight** for sending **eight** **neighing** horses overseas depends on their **height** and **weight**.

heaven	earth	sea	ocean	beach
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Heavenly bodies like the **earth**, rotate around the sun. When one stands on the **beach** on a clear night, one can see their reflections on **seas** and **oceans**.

when	why	what	who
whom	which	where	

When will Mrs **White** be back? Wait a **while**, I'll ask her. **Where** and **why** did she go and with **whom**? **What** did they wear? **Knock knock!** **Who's** there? A witch! **Which** one? The one from Ipswich.

knock	knee	knuckle	knife
knapsack	know	knight	known
knickers	knot		

Did you know that Mrs Knight is knock kneed, has trouble holding a knife and putting knick-knacks into her knapsack because of her arthritic knuckles? That's why she always gets her knickers into a knot. It was not known that she lived on her own.

industrious	curious	obvious
dangerous	mountainous	serious

Industrious people are curious. It's obvious that it may be dangerous in mountainous areas. Are you serious?

captain	curtain	certain
fountain	mountain	

Captain Curtain was not certain if he could build a fountain on top of the Blue Mountains.

cruise	build	fruit
juice	biscuit	suit

During a **cruise**, a **builder** spilt (spilled) **fruit juice** and chocolate **biscuit** crumbs on his **suit**.

(**crumb** – **crumble** – **crumbling**)

furl	curtain	further	curl	fur
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You can't **furl** this **curtain** any **further**; it's as thick as a **curly fur** coat! (Visual spelling: the u-shape of the folds)

our	four	hour	could	would	cousin
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Our **cousin** in the **country** was trapped for **four** **hours** in his car before they **could** get him **out**. It **would** take a year to recover. (**hour**: **h** for **hands**)

beep	sheep	sleep	deep
sleep	creek	week	

When they heard the loud **beep** of a **jeep**, the shepherd's **sheep** ran down a **steep** hill into a **deep** **creek**. The man couldn't **sleep** for a **week**.

u-turn	urn	sun
burnt	hurt	nurse

Turn off the **urn** but don't burn yourself; you'll need a nurse if you get hurt.

spare	care	dare	snare
hare	mare	fare	

When Simon Sparetyre was still in day-care, he dared to snare a hare. When he was old, he rode his mare to avoid paying the bus fare.

bear	eat	pears	peach	tear
-------------	------------	--------------	--------------	-------------

Bears like to eat peaches and pears. Don't make them angry; they will tear you apart so that you won't have any underwear.

ice	twice	nice	rice	price
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Mr Iceberg rang twice to order curried prawns and rice at the right price.

reach	beach	teach
peach	each	team cream

When our soccer team reached the beach, our teacher Miss Preacher gave us a peach each; ice cream would have melted.

any	many	class	grass
brass	pass	anyone	anywhere

Anyone in your class can sit anywhere on the grass to listen to the band; even the ones without a bus pass.

Any questions? I hope not too many!

few	Jew	view	mew
pew	flew	new	threw

A few Jews threw breadcrumbs (crumble) to the mews. When the mews flew out of view, the Jews went inside and sat on pews to listen to the news.

sheaf	leaf	already	read
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A sheaf of leaflets was already at the door for people to read.

Greek	three	week
creek	seek	leek

Zorba the Greek spent three weeks at Kemp's Creek to seek a spot where he could grow green leeks under the beeches.

we	wristwatch	wretched	please
were	wrap		apple

When **we were** in the shop, we asked the shopkeeper, "Can you **wrap** the apples in a **wrapper please**?" He looked at his **wristwatch** and said, "That's a **wretched** nuisance; I'm already half an hour late!"

chief	Police	friend	priest
niece	cricket	field	

The chief of Police is a friend of the priest's niece who lives opposite the cricket field.

beat	team	heat	cheat
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It's difficult to **beat** a **team** in the **heat**, especially when they **cheat**.

worm	work	world	word
worse	worst	worth	

Worms live in the under**world** without saying a **word**. One **worm's cough** was getting **worse**, the **worst** it had ever been, so as bait he would be **worthless** and thus not for sale at Wool**worth**.

sleep	weep	sweep	keep	creep
slept	wept	swept	kept	crept

A somnambulist

Pep **crept** out of his bed and **swept** the floor while he **slept**. He **kept** going till he **wept**. (But: **leap-lept**).

Clair	fairy	chair	against
dairy	hair	lair	

Clair Fairy floss put her chair against the wall of the dairy to write something in her diary because she had just watched hairy animals leaving their lair to get fresh air.

blast	vast	mast	past	cast
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A strong blast of wind over a vast area, broke a ship's mast at half past before it could cast off.

goal	moan	oaf	loaf	toast
coal	coat	coach	hoarse	throat

When an ex-goalkeeper became a moaning oaf, he stole a loaf of bread to make toast. When he was about to hide it under his coal coloured coat, his ex-coach grabbed him by his hoarse throat.

tea	breakfast bread	spread
peanut	cream cereals	real wheat

Eat-words: I like a cup of tea for breakfast, a slice of bread with peanut butter spread or creamy cereals made from real wheat.

reign	ceiling	eight	weight	rein
heinous	heir	feign	deign	

King Husein the **eight**h was heavily overweight but **reign**ed for **eight**een years. He kept a tight **rein** on royal expenditure in order to prepare for a rainy day. After his **heinous** murder, his **heir** **feign**ed innocence although he was found hiding in the bedroom **ceiling**. However, he would not **deign** to talk to the police, so they lost **their** cool. Vowel change: **price**-precious; **heir**-heritage; **they**-**their**; **grain**-granivorous.

Attila	attire	attract	attention
attempt	attach	attain	attitude

Attila, king of the Huns, dressed in royal **attire**, **attracted** the **attention** of the world when he **attempted** to **attack** the Romans and **attained** victory after victory which changed their **attitude**.

turf	burly	surly	sunburnt
Turk	sturdy	fur	surge
surf	hamburger	frankfurter	sauce

A **turf** farmer, a **burly**, **surly**, **sunburnt** **Turk** with **sturdy** legs and dressed in a **fur** coat, dived into the **surging surf** at **Curl Curl** while holding a **hamburger** in one hand and a **frankfurter** with **sauce** in the other!

freak	heath	heather	wreath
sneak	squeak	squeal	breath
breathe	under- neath		

Fred Freak walked on the heath to get heather for a wreath. To keep his pet rabbit warm, he sneaked it underneath. However, the rabbit bit his hand and squeaked and squealed because it couldn't breath; it was out of breath.

half	walk	stalk	talk	chalk
calf				

Jack Halfcalf walked up the beanstalk to talk to Mrs Chalk.

beet	feet	meet
greet	sweet	street

Simon Sugarbeet always got cold feet when he was about to meet and greet a sweet girl in the street.

bottle	giggle	memory	history	victory
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Spelling through word building: Bottle-bottler-bottling. Giggle-giggling. Victory-victorious. Memory-memorial. History-historic-historian. Collapsible-possible-possibly.

7. All is well that ends well

reason	son	treason	season
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There was no rhyme or reason why my son was accused of treason last season.

spouse	mouse	louse	grouse	douse
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My spouse has mouse-, louse-and grouse coloured hair. When I douse the light, it's black.

carp	sharp	tarp	harpoon
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The carp's teeth are not sharp enough to rip my tarp(aulin) apart. Soon it will be on my harpoon.

girl	shirt	skirt	dirty	wash	warm
					water

Girls wear shirts and skirts. When this garments are dirty, they will be washed in warm water.

Joe	doesn't	shoes	toes
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Joe doesn't wear shoes; they hurt his toes.

instant	assistant	blatant
redundant	infant	

The instant the assistant was blatantly made redundant, he couldn't afford to feed his infant.

thought	brought	wrought	bought
sought	fought	rough	

I thought you would have brought the sought – after bike you bought. Instead, you fought with your rough cousin!

kingdom	freedom	seldom	boredom
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King Domenic the 10th believed that freedom in his kingdom seldom led to boredom.

belief	niece	grief	thief	brief
believe	chief			

I believe that the chief's niece came to grief when a thief grabbed her briefcase when she was walking across a cricket field.

would	could	should
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If you would and you could, you should!

Walter	swan	was	wander
waltzing	walnut	walk	wand
squall	wan	squander squalid	squat
wallop	wallet	wallaby	swallow wallow

Walter Swanlake was wandering around waltzing (walking) his Matilda (swag) and eating a handful of walnuts while leaning on his walking wand, when a sudden squall blew it away. He stumbled into a nearby shack to find shelter. When he opened the door, a wan and squalid looking squatter gave him a wallop in order to steal his wallet. Walter and Matilda fell backwards next a dead wallaby and a pig wallowing in the mud so that he swallowed a mouthful. When the squatter followed him, his dirty smell attracted a swarm of wasps from a nearby swamp. He would have swapped his life for a can of insecticide. He looked

as if he had the mumps. When he nevertheless got the wallet, he found that it was empty because Walter had squandered all his money on gambling.

sailor	quail	jail	sailer	mail
fail	rain	railing	pail	snail
hail	frail	nail	wail	no avail

A sailor by the name of Quail and lived near Long Bay jail, put his sailor up for sale via e-mail.

Unfortunately, he failed to sell it. On a rainy day, it would move slower than a snail and the surplus of water had to be thrown over the railing with a large pail. During a heavy hailstorm, the sailor became very frail because the hail stones were as sharp as nails. Quail wailed for hours but to no avail.

gnarled	garden	in	gnu	gnat
	gnome	front	gnaw	
		of		

In front of the house, underneath an old gnarled tree stood a garden gnome. An old gnu was gnawing at the shortgrass, its head protected by a gnatcatcher.

distance	fragrance	allowance
hurricane	century	instance
since	insurance	damage

A large distant sugarcane plantation was flattened by a hurricane (wind in a hurry), the worst disaster in a century (from centurial, a Roman century). Unfortunately, in this instance, since it was the result of a natural one, the damage was not covered by insurance.

gamble	squabble	horse shoe
stumble	dock paddock	half whole

Gamble-gambling. Stumble-stumbling.

Stop-stopped. Trip-tripped.

Two gamblers squabbled over their share of the winnings at the race course. The tall bloke holding

the money tripped over a horse shoe, stumbled and dropped the money between the dock leaves in the paddock. Before the little bloke could grab it, a hungry horse swallowed the whole wad.

8. A short story

bullant	assistant	tyrant
distance distant	rant	

The assistant of Miss Bullant is a distant relative of a cruel tyrant, but doesn't rant and rave.

close	chose	these those	hose	rose
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Clive Close chose to use only those hoses to water his roses.

Andrew	Newtown	knew	new	few
Jew	brew	they- their	view	stew

Andrew Newtown **knew** a few Jews who brew their own beer. In their **view** it was an ideal beverage to drink with a spicy **stew**.

Australian sausage	language	French courage
French village	carry carriage	marry marriage
advantage postage	damage image	

Although Shaun Sausage didn't speak a foreign **language**, he had the **advantage** that he had the **courage**-without **damaging** his **image**-to go to the **village** in a horse-drawn **carriage** to buy a **postage** stamp before his **marriage** to the heir of the king of Reindeer Lake who **reigned** for **eight** years.

goat	boat	moat	bloat
float	throat	coarse hoarse	

A silly **coarse**-haired **goat** jumped from a **boat** into a **moat**. He started to **bloat** and **float** and ended up with a **hoarse** **throat**.

influenza	true	Sue	glue
clue	hue	blue	

Is it true that Sue swallowed glue? I haven't got a clue! Her face, in hues ranging from yellow to blue, was swollen. She probably had the flu.

our	cousin	country
County	four	hours

Our cousin in the country also has a house in Prospect County. It takes him four hours to drive there.

tonight	knight	night
two	twelve	twenty

Tonight, Mr and Mrs Knight will book a room for two, twelve or twenty nights.

morning	corn	sort short	story
George	forty	for	gorgeous
corner	port sport	born	storm
formal	horn	stork	pork

	thorn	fork	
York	cork		

A short story

This morning, George Cornwell, a fellow in his forties, will set the table for his gorgeous daughter who is getting married to Jack Horner of Round Corner, a good sort of sportsman, born in a fortress during a wild storm. Since it is a formal occasion with bunches of thorny roses, silver knives and forks, pork Yorkshire pudding and corkscrews to open forty bottles of port. Mr Stork, the celebrant, will say few words.

dream	team	bream	dreamt
beam	scream	steam	streamers

During a dream, our soccer coach Mr Bream, dreamt that our team won the competition. He saw streamers, he saw our faces beam and heard us scream to let off steam.

Spelling through word building, finding clues or using keywords.

-le	-el	-al	-ol	-il
possible	cruel	ideal	Petrol	Civil
possibly	cruelty	ideally	Petroleum	Civilian
probable	duel	social	Museum	Pistil
probably	duelling	socially	Pistol	Lentil
stumble	label	medal	Symbol	Evil
stumbling	labelling	medallion	symbolic	Devil
gamble	towel	metal		devilish
gambling	towelling	metallic		

When Carol Gambol couldn't read the symbol for the right type of petrol(keyword), the attending attendant threatened her with a water pistol.

Bill Basil, a pupil in Primary, who looked like a praying mantis and whose father is a civil (keyword) engineer at the local Council, was sharpening his pencil to make a stencil of the fossils of a lentil's pistil and a tendril until (keyword) he noticed an evil-looking Tasmanian Devil. Since he thought his life was in peril, he panicked, tripped over his father anvil-a useful utensil-and hurt his nostril as well as his tonsil.

tremendous	nebulous	anonymous
mischievous	venomous	deciduous
carnivorous	strenuous	monotone monotonous
tortuous	perilous	dangerous

Serious and mysterious or ridiculously hilarious

During a tremendously nebulous day, an anonymous, mischievous, carnivorous and venomous rattle snake slithered strenuously along the monotonously tortuous and perilous(dangerous) path-for humans that is-across a deciduous forest without enough food or water for herbivorous, granivorous and amphibious animals. Since this illustrious, globulous headed conspicuous creature had just finished eating a generous meal consisting of an adventurous but obviously obstreperous, delicious rhinoceros, it felt horrendously bilious.

fraught	slaughter	draught
haughty	naughty	daughter
distraught	laugh	caught
taught		

A butcher wanted to slaughter the old draught horse of his haughty and naughty daughter. She was so distraught that she wanted to jump into the water. Her father laughed and caught her so that taught her a lesson.

donor	doctor	motor
tremor		
rotor	scribe	any
	prescribe	many

During a recent earth tremor, doctors on motorbikes raced to the scene where the rotor blades of a blood donor helicopter had broken off. A scribe prescribed the necessary medication for anyone hurt. Many were dead; amongst them a tailor and a sculptor.

notice	practice	Alice	apprentice
novice	liquor	liquorice	malice
service	office		

Notice on the door of a medical practice

Our apprentice receptionist Alice Novice has choked on some nice liquorice. When her boyfriend Trevor, a Justice of the Peace, gave her some of his liquor to drink without any malice intended, she nevertheless experienced a slight tremor in her stomach. Hence the service in this office has been postponed.

Tom	stomach	ache	spinach
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Romanian stomac	Italian stomaco	Spanish estómago
Portuguese estômago	French estomac	

Tom has a stomach ache; he ate too much spinach.

heaven	earth	sea	ocean	beach
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When there's peace on earth, we're in seventh heaven. We can sail the seven seas or oceans or just have ice cream on the beach.

sake	take	take	stake
snake	brake	wake	
steak	breakfast	breakfasting	

For heaven's sake! If you take your foot off the brake to run over a stark naked snake, you'll end up in the lake and wake up in hospital because your life is at stake. You won't have breakfast with steak! Note: hospital-hospitality-hospitable. Two drivers; one on the driver's side.

Spelling awareness: A professional memory training course

9. Less haste more speed

waste	paste	taste	waste
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You seem to have a **taste** for wasting toothpaste in your **haste**.

curl	churly	Turk	urchin
slur	lurch	church	suburb
Burwood	purr	occur	urge
splurge	Hamburg	nurse	purse
curse	purchase liverwurst		

A curly, churly Turkish urchin who spoke with a slur, often lurched around a church in the suburb of Burwood, often with a purring cat on his shoulder. I didn't occur to people that he was after their(they-their) money because he had an urge to splurge it on hamburgers. One day, he snatched a nurse's purse. She cursed because

then she couldn't purchase liver wurst. She was too slow to chase him.

priest	niece	cricket	field	piece	pie
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The priest's niece crossed the cricket field to give him a piece of pie.

fair	pair	hair	air
chair	despair	upstairs	

During the fair, a pair of dark haired people in wheelchairs looked with an air of despair when they couldn't get up the stairs.

kitchen	little	kitten	pray	prayer
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The priest went into the kitchen to give the little kitten its dinner because it got thinner and thinner. Then he picked up his prayer book to pray for a rainy day.

judge	grudge	nudge	fudge	budge
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The judge begrudged anyone who nudged him to get some of his fudge; he just didn't budge.

waitress	gait	straight
strait	bait	

A waitress walked with a funny gait because of her tight dress. She was going straight to Bass Strait to buy bait because it was not available in Adelaide.

opinion	collision	pavilion
fiction	restriction	decision condition

In my opinion, the collision outside Bondi pavilion was like science fiction. Since seatbelts offered no restriction, drivers and passengers were in bad condition.

10. Blunt pencil

other	mother	brother
bother	another	

Once a month on Monday, my brother and my mother load bags of onions on their wagon.

shush	bull	full	pull
push	bush	put	

“Shush! The bull is too full to pull or push the wagon out of the bush, so you had better put him away in the manger, stranger,” said the ranger. (French: manger – to eat).

go	will	do	up	upon
gone	won't	done		on

If you go, you're gone. If you do, it's done. Don't climb (clamber) on my knees, they're as sore as my arthritic knuckles!

free	three	green
trees	I see	she sees

Free! Three dark green Christmas trees. (Christ+Mass)

although	you	rough	tough
enough	dough	trough	through

Although you are rough, you're not tough enough to lift this heavy dough trough through that door!

soon	poor	door	moor	floor
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As **soon** as the **poor** man opened the rickety **door** of his hut on the **moor**, it fell onto the **floor**. Say no more!

Note: Poor – no money. Pour, out, spout.)

leave	heave	sheaf
sheave	heavy	sheaves

Leave those **sheaves**, you'll need a **sheave** because they're too **heavy** to **heave** without one.

pretty	petty	office
officer	allow	In front of

This **pretty** **petty** **officer** has ten pets. Every morning they're **all allowed** to wait in **front of** her bed to be fed.

bough	plough	sough
willow	window	widow

When the **bough** fell onto the **plough**, nothing else was heard but the **sough** of the wind in the **willow** in **front of** the **window** of the **widow** (a

woman). Remember: head, ear, hear, heard, deaf, heart, beat, breath, breathe.

either		fault
neither	neighbour	trailer

Neither my father nor the trailer was at fault: the streets in our neighbourhood are too narrow at either end.

Remember:

1. Sleigh, neigh, eight, reindeer, freight, height, weight.
2. sail, sailor, trailer, sailor, tail, trail, snail.
3. fat, father, rat, rather.
4. It's not my fault that Shaun did a summersault in the vault!

police	officer	once
twice	thrice	licence

The nice officer didn't book me once but twice on the same day. He could have booked me thrice, because the second time, I wouldn't show my licence again although I could have and thus should have shown it.

Remember:

1. eye, cheek, teeth, knee, heel, feet, street, meet, greet.
2. All right (2 words). Also, always (1 word), bucketful, a bucket full of.
3. Worm, work, world, word, worse, worst, worth.

since	prince	quince	mince	wince
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Since the prince didn't like quince mince, he winced.

near	year	clear	ear
deaf	hear	heart	beat

It's been nearly two years since the doctor cleaned my ear. It's so clear that I can hear my heart beat again when I'm out of breath. I would have been deaf otherwise.

swallow	warp	walk	towards
swamp	Waterloo	swap	swarm
wasp	swaddle		

Mrs **Swallow** and Mrs **Warp** – two famous ornithologists from **Watson's Bay** **walked** towards a **swamp** near **Waterloo** to **swap** ideas about how to observe birds without being seen, when their exotic perfume attracted a **swarm** of **warlike wasps**. A helicopter took them to Westmead hospital. When they were **swaddled** with bandages, they looked like three thousand-year-old mummies in an Egyptian pyramid amidst pharaohs in sarcophaguses.

Remember:

1. **Swaddle-swaddling**.
2. **Famous, glorious, dangerous, fabulous**.
3. **Two, twelve, twenty**

Greek	Greece	creek	seek	leek
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Zorba the Greek from Greece went to Kemp's Creek to **seek** a spot where he could grow **leeks**.

settle	settler	settling
mettle	kettle	

Once **settled**, he became a **mettled** **settler** using a campfire to boil his **kettle**.

mellow	fellow	yellow
yearn learn	earn	early

A **mellow** **fellow** bought a **yellow** cab because he **yearned** to **learn** how to become a taxi driver to **earn** money as **early** as possible.

Remember:

1. Thought, brought, wrought, bought, fought.
2. Donkey, monkey, kidney, Sydney, honey, money.

rock	stock	hammock	sock
paddock	chock	block	dock
flock	clock		

A **rock**-solid **stock**man slept in a **hammock** tied between two trees in a **paddock** **chock**-a-**block** with **dock**. He kept his **socks** on to keep his feet warm. Every morning, at about six o'clock, a **flock** of **laughing** kookaburras would wake him.

Remember:

1. Sleep-slept, keep-kept, weep-wept

2. slaughter, draughthorse, haughty, naughty, daughter.

far sound telephone	far write, graph telegram	far vision see telescope
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Remember:

1. If you **add** two **odd** numbers, you'll get an even one.
2. Real-really, eventual-eventually, usual-usually.
3. Till(until) 5 o'clock.
4. You'll **have** to **behave**, Dave!

D uchess	s uch	s andwich
m uch	r ich	w hich

Duchess Such and Such doesn't eat very much. Since she's not rich, she only eats one sandwich per day!

Compare: Dutch, itch, fetch, notch, scratch.

f irst	t hird	t hirst
d rink	f ast	l ast

When you come **first**, **third** or **last**- if you're not **fast** enough,- you'll need to drink because you're thirsty.

Remember:

1. **Although, rough, tough, enough.**
2. **Sure, measure, treasure.**
3. **Over, cover, discover**
4. **We answer.**
5. **Grab-grabbed.**

heat	weather	heather	heaven	earth
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“How on **earth** can you stand the **heat** during hot **weather**?” asked **Heather**. “I’m in seventh **heaven**,” answered Kevin.

whether	wether	tether	together
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Check **whether** the **wethers** are **tethered** **together**! **Remember**: why, when, what, which, who, whom, white, while.

deem	seem	teem
-------------	-------------	-------------

Do not **deem** him worthy of this position. He always stays home when it **teems** with rain because he can’t even afford to buy an umbrella.

Remember:

1. **Terrible-terribly, trouble-troubling. Couple-coupler.**
- 2.

Heave-heavy-heavily (Drop they and put an i)

3. Other-another-mother-brother.

4. Worm-world-word-worth.

gloom	room	zoom	loom	bloom
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From my gloomy room I could hear a zooming swarm of bees looming in the distance around flowers in bloom.

Remember:

1. One-anyone-everyone-none-done.
2. April-pupil-pencil-fossil-lentil-evil-devil-nostril.
3. Stop-stopped. Hop-hopped. Pellets
4. Ever-everyone-everywhere, never
5. River-shiver-liver-alive.
6. Swan-wash-warm-water-swamp.
7. Try-tried. Happy-happily.
8. Go-goes-went-gone. Do-does-did-done.

you	cousin	country
your		
double	trouble	couple

You and your country cousin are in double trouble. No pocket money for a couple of weeks!

mild	wild	child	children
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During this **mild** weather, most children run **wild**.

Remember:

1. **Almost, always, altogether.** But: **all** right.
2. **Cover, discover, uncover, over, oven, stove.**

binge	hinge	whinge
fringe	singe	tinge
cringe		

After a two hour **binge**, the men got a bit **unhinged**. When the innkeeper started to **whinge**, he **cringed** when they threatened to **singe** her **fringe** that, till then, only had a **tinge** of grey.

hey-day	obey	they
prey	grey eyes	

During their **hey-day**, bushrangers never **obeyed** the law; **they** were like birds of **prey** with **grey eyes**.

- Remember: 1. Danger, manger, ranger, stranger
2. Saw, paw, claw, raw, slaw, maw, straw, awful.

attach	account	attempt	Attila
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attract	attention	attack	announce
allow	arrange		

Attached please find an account of the attempt to murder Attila, king of the Huns. It attracted world-wide attention. Since the attack was of course announced it didn't allow him to arrange suitable precautions.

Remember: 1. Since, prince, quince, mince, wince. 2. Fruit juice is suitable for vegans. Suitable, suitably.

countess	seamstress	add
duchess		
addition	address	distress

When a seamstress messed up the dress of a countess who was about to address a group of international countesses in addition to national ones, both woman were in distress I guess.

Remember: 1. A week has seven days. 2. Nation, national, nationally. 3. Man – woman. Men – women.

write	wrote	written
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bite	bitten	kitten
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If you **want** to **write** something, you'll need a pen or a pencil to **write with**. After it's **written**, be sure you're not going to be bitten by your little kitten. I **wrote** this down last week!

Remember: 1. **Sure, pure, cure, secure**. 2. **Goat, boat, moat, throat (hoarse), bloat, float**.

sting	stung	ring	rang	rung
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1, After a wasp has stung you, its sting lasts.

2. I rang you yesterday; I let the phone ring for half an hour. I should have rung you earlier.

balance	instance	finance
entrance	particular particularity	

Considering our bank **balance** at this **particular** **instance** we have no **chance** to **finance** a new **entrance**.

Remember: 1. **Although, rough, tough, enough, dough, trough**. 2. **Could, would, should**. 3. **Instead, steady, ready, homestead, bedspread**.

thistle	whistle	Bristol
often	bristle	

When Mr **Thistle** from **Bristol** blew his **white whistle** his cat's fur would **often** **bristle**.

Remember: 1. Skip – shipping, ship – shipping. 2.

Combine – combination.

3. A minute is a minute part of a day.

—• •—

Note: 1. The horizon is horizontal.

•—• ••—•

2. Glimpse – glimpses. Horse – horses. House – houses.

knack	knit	dough Knead bread	knob
knuckle	knapsack	knot know	knife
knickers	knock		

Did you know that Mrs Knickerbocker has the knack of knitting socks, kneading dough and watching soccer while sitting in her rocker?

Despite her knobby knees and her arthritic knuckles that can hardly undo her knapsack's buckles. One day, she heard a knock on the door of her house on the moor; probably her friend Mrs Bluberry from Londonderry for her daily glass of sherry. Poor Mrs Knickerbocker stood up too quickly, got her knickers in a knot and fell onto the floor, just missing a knife that would have ended her life.

guise	guava	guile	guard
Guy	guardian	Guildford	guerrilla
guinea	Guernsey	guide	guarantee
guest	guillotine	aunt uncle	

Under the **guise** of **guava**, the **guile** bodyguard of **Guy Guardian** – an ex – **guerrilla** – bought a **guinea** pig on the isle of **Guernsey** in The English Channel and hid it in his **guitar** case to deliver it to his uncle, a tour **guide** in Guildford. Unfortunately there was no **guarantee** that this illegal venture would succeed. If it didn't, the **bodyguard** would

become a **g**uest in Parramatta prison.
 Fortunately, the use of the **g**uillotine was
 abolished after the French Revolution.
 Remember: 1. **B**ody, somebody, anybody,
 nobody. 2. **G**uerrilla: from Guerra – war (Spanish).
 Uncle: from oncle (French). 3. **L**egal – legally.
Able-ably. **N**eedle-needling. **C**hannel-channelling.
 4. You need a needle to sew.

sculpture	signature	miniature
structure	manufacture	future
agriculture	posture	gesture
feature	caricature	figure
create creature	picture	puncture
fracture	temperature	departure
sculptor	journalist	

The soapstone **sculpture** complete with the
 sculptor's **signature**, was a **miniature structure**
manufactured – as a political **gesture** – for the
 office of the **future Minister of Agriculture**.
 Judging by its **posture**, **gesture** and inflated

features, it was a clever caricature of the solid country bumpkin. Before its departure, pictures were taken from all angles (not angels!). The police figured that, owing to the high temperature and sharp nails on the road (sabotage?) three nearside truck tyres got a puncture. Unfortunately, the seatbelt snapped causing the sculpture to topple. Fortunately, it landed on a heap of blankets so it didn't fracture. Note: 1. **Manufacture** – handmade. Compare: manual. 2. Agriculture: from ager – field (Latin)

Jew	blow	few	new
ball balloon	blew	blue	

A **Jew** in Jerusalem wanted to blow up a **few new** balloons. He **blew** so hard that his face turned blue. That's not true!

villain	Britain	curtain	certain
captain	fountain	mountain	coxswain
Keyword obtain	mission permission		

A villain from Britain and a coxswain from behind the iron curtain were not certain whether they would obtain permission from the captain to visit the fountain on the mountain.

Remember: 1. Once, twice, thrice. 2. Whether, weather, wether, tether, together.

croak	oak	soap	soak
coal	oat	coat	cloak

Hoax

Frogs **croaked** when they jumped into an **oaken** bucket filled with hot **soapy** water to **soak** a **coal** coloured **coat** and an **oatmeal** coloured **cloak**.

lion	bacon	champion	lesson
prison	station	million	onion
baton	iron		

A **lion** tamer was nicknamed **Bacon** and **Eggs** because he **seldom** ate anything else. He became a world **champion**, courageous enough to sleep in the same cage as the **lions**.

Before that, he had two totally different jobs.

After giving riding **lessons** with his **son** in an open

prison, he worked as a station hand on a farm where they grew millions of onions. If he didn't work hard enough, he got six of the best with a baton because farmer John Beacon was the conductor of a brass band; a cruel man as strong as iron bark.

Remember: 1. Iron ore, a hot iron. 2. Total – totally, candle – handle – handling. 3. Whole – half, memory – memorial.

imagine	examine	engine
machine	discipline	guillotine

I imagine that one needs a certain discipline to examine each individual part of an engine, a sewing machine or a guillotine.

key	monkey	donkey	add
odd	beef	reef	

1. A monkey and a donkey with one kidney went to Sydney to buy honey for their money plus a spare key at Circular Quay.
2. There's not much grass for beef cattle on the Great Barrier Reef.

3. If you add two odd numbers, you get an even one.

4. Bears like to eat peaches and pears; they don't have underwear.

5. It's Sir Stirfry's birthday.

Remember: 6. Buy, purchase, purse, nurse, curse, liverwort. 7. I wonder if they won.

That would be wonderful!

sight	might	right	light
night	tight	fight	height high

From hindsight, you might be right. The cost of having a light in every room is rather high, especially when you have to be tight with money and fight to get a job.

fair	pair	flair	stair	lair
hair	affair	dairy	chair	city citizen

To win \$1000 at a country fair in the open air, a courageous dairy man entered with flair – via a set of stairs – the lair of a pair of hungry, hairy

bears to give them a bucketful of peaches and pears. One hundred citizens from a nearby city paid \$100 each to watch the affair while safely sitting on comfortable chairs arranged behind armoured glass.

Remember: 1. **Hungry hairy. Safely sitting** (consonantal alliteration). 2. **You, your, cousin, country, double trouble.** 3. **Courage – courageous. Comfortable (French!), comfortably.**

quern	astern	ern	fern	hernia
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When captain Quern went full astern to avoid hitting some erns (sea eagles), his pots of ferns toppled over. Unfortunately he couldn't pick them up because of his hernia.

Remember: 1. Girl, skirt, shirt, dirt, flirt, first, thirst, third.

dear	hear	sear	year	ear
near	rear	gear	tears	fear

Oh dear! I hear that, during the searing heat, the car of the year fell on one ear because the near – side tyres blew up when another car hit the rear

owing to faulty gears.

Both drivers were in tears, I fear.

fledge	edge	sledge	pledge
wedge	hedge	dredge	

When a kookaburra fledged her fledglings, one fell off the **edge** of a **sledge** although the mother had **pledge** to be careful. It got **wedged** between a **hedge** and a **dredge**.

behaviour	honour	saviour
savoury	honour	harbour
rumour	neighbour	favour
odour	flavour	splendour
armour	colour	vigour
arbour	hours	labour

Judging by the **behaviour** of the honourable Simon **Saviour** of Coffs **Harbour**, he was an unsavory character. **Rumour** has it that, to do his neighbours a **favour**, he often raised money to buy their honey because he liked its sweet **odour** and **flavour**.

He would re-enact the **splendour** of a medieval

knight in full **armour** on a stallion protected by a **colourful** harness. He **would** arrogantly gallop with **vigour** through their **arbours** thereby destroying **hours** of hard **labour**.

Remember: 1. Sparse, farce, horse, house, mouse, louse, spouse. 2. Hate – hatred. 3. Trample – trampling. Sample – sampling. Bearable – able to bear ably.

goal	moan	oaf	loaf	toast
coal	coat	coach	throat	

When an ex-**goal**keeper became a **moaning oaf**, he stole a **loaf** of bread to make **toast**. When he was about to hide it under his **coal** coloured **coat**, his ex-**coach** grabbed him by the **throat**.

tea	breakfast bread	spread
peanut	cream cereals	real wheat

Eat – words: I like a cup of **tea** for **breakfast**, a slice of **bread** with **peanut** butter **spread** or **creamy** **cereals** made from **real** **wheat**.

reign	ceiling	eight	weight
rein	heinous	heir	feign
deign			

King Husein the eighth was heavily overweight but **reigned** for **eighteen** years. He kept a tight **rein** on royal expenditure in order to prepare for a rainy day. After his **heinous** murder, his **heir** **feigned** innocence although he was found hiding in the bedroom **ceiling**. However, he would not **deign** to talk to the police, so they lost **their** cool. Vowel change: **price** – **precious**; **heir** – **heritage**; **they** – **their**.

Attila	attire	attract	attention
attempt	attach	attain	attitude

Attila, king of the Huns, dressed in royal **attire**, **attracted** the **attention** of the world when he **attempted** to **attack** the Romans and **attained** victory after victory which changed their **attitude**.

nigh	bligh	thigh	high
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“Land is **high**,” shouted captain **Bligh** while standing in water **thigh high**.

worm	work	world	word
worse	worst	worth	

The **worm** **works** in the under**world**. He doesn't say a **word** because his cough is getting **worse**, the **worst** it has ever been, so he's not **worth** very much. Remember: petrol – petroleum

serious	mysterious	ridiculous
hilarious	tremendous	nebulous
anonymous	mischievous	carnivorous
venomous	strenuous	monotonous
tortuous	dangerous	deciduous

Serious and mysterious or ridiculously hilarious

During a **tremendously** **nebulous** day, an **anonymous**, **mischievous**, **carnivorous** and **venomous** rattle snake slithered **strenuously** along the **monotonously** **tortuous** and **dangerous** path across a **deciduous** forest. Remember:

- 1.annual – annually – anniversary – per annum.
- 2.heaven – earth – peace – weather – sea – ocean – beach.

withdrawal	renewal	mineral	interval
cardinal	hymnal	sandal	funeral
admiral	cannibal	pedal	bridal
ritual	festival	Chrystal	approval
survival	removal	cathedral	

My ex-pupil is a civil engineer with the local council. He's got a rather tranquil job. He checks the pistils of the council flowers during April showers, gets rid of unwanted fossils, sharpens pencils, makes stencils, administers tranquilisers when the lives of councillors are in peril, clips their tonsils, removes weevils from their nostrils despite the cavils of these evil devils.

coast	boat	board	oar	roar	soar
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During a heavy storm off the Central Coast, a boatman fell overboard when he tried to grab one of the oars he lost when it disappeared in the roaring, soaring waves.

grace	brace	face	pace	race	place
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Grace lost her braces when she pulled of face while going at a fast pace across a strange place.

although	rough	tough	enough
dough	trough	through	

Although you are rough, you're not tough enough to lift this heavy dough trough through that door, while you have a bad cough.

poor	door	moor	roof	floor
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When the poor man opened the door of the old hut on the moor, the roof collapsed and fell on the floor.

attach	attack	attain	attempt
attend	attention	attest	attire
attorney	attract	attribute	attune

The Latin prefix ad means to or towards. Here: the d changes to its cousin t to create a comfortable blend. Compare: arrive=ad riva; to the river.

What attracted the attention to the attending attorney was his unusual attire tightly attached to his pencil-thin body, obviously in an attempt to minimise the chance of a heart attack often attributed to obesity.

neighbour	eight	neigh	reindeer
sleight	sleigh	heir	freight
height	weight		

Our neighbour has eight neighing reindeer. With sleight of hand he puts eighty sleigh bells their necks before sending them to Santa's heir in Turkey. The freight depends on height and weight. Remember: 1. Local – locally. Frugal – frugally 2. Laughed – caught – taught, naughty, daughter.

heaven	earth	peace
weather	sea	beach ocean

This heavenly weather is quite peaceful. Let's go to the beach and swim in the Pacific Ocean. Remember: learn, read, teach, hear, ear, head, heart, beat, breath.

cruz age	garbage	village
spillage damage	voyage	

At your age, you should have the **courage** to take the **garbage** to the **village** tip without **spillage** or causing **damage** to your back **bon voyage!**

tremor	curator	solicitor	tractor
alligator	visitor	actor	traitor
horror	spectator	doctor	equator

Trevor Tremor, a curator of an art gallery, a solicitor for a tractor vendor, Alex Alligator – an actor in a horror movie – an overseas visitor, a doctor and a traitor, all went in a motor boat to become the first spectator to see the equator.

dumb	numb	thumb	crumb	bomb
tomb	womb	jamb	lamb	climb
plumber	comb	doubt	subtle	

How **dumb** can you be!

Bill **Subtle** – the local **plumber** – drove his old **bomb** the graveyard to put flowers on the **tombstone** of his deceased girlfriend Sally **Womb**. In his haste his **thumb** got caught between the door and the door **jamb** so he cried like a new

born lamb. I doubt whether his numb thumb will allow him to climb up his ladder, pick up crumbs or even comb his hair. Doorjamb: from French jambe – leg.

coach	broach	poach cockroach
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Our soccer **coach** **broached** the carton that contained a pesticide to kill **cockroaches**. Afterwards, he **poached** eggs for our team.

basil	pupil	utensil	anvil
civil	council	evil	devil
tonsil	pencil	nostril	fossil
lentil			

Betty Basil – a pupil in my class – likes to draw her mother’s kitchen utensils, her brother’s anvil, evil-looking Tasmanian Devils with large nostrils and even fossils. Her father is a civil engineer with the Council, so she borrows his pencils and stencils. Last week, she had sore tonsils, because she swallowed uncooked lentils. Remember: although you are rough, you’re not tough enough...

knew	knight	knuckle	knock
knee	knit	know	knickers
knot	knife		

I knew Mrs Knight had knife – sharp knuckles and knock knees, on legs thinner than knitting needles, but I didn't know that her knickers are always in a knot. Remember: My neighbour has eight neighing reindeer. When he pulls the sleigh, he uses reins.

villain	Britain	captain
curtain	certain	mountain

A villain from Britain and a captain from behind the Iron Curtain were not certain whether they were allowed to erect a fountain on top of the Three Sisters in the Blue Mountains.

person	dragon	button	London
prison	parson	heron	weapon
matron	apron	mutton	bacon
salmon	Devon	lemon	melon
poison			

This person's dragon of a son by the name of Bill Button is in a London prison again for having attacked parson Heron with a weapon.

In jail, he ripped the matron's apron because she gave him mutton and bacon instead of smoked salmon, so an inmate from Devon killed him by giving him lemon and melon dipped in poison.

Note: Mutton (•—) from French mouton (•—)

base	chase	staircase
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A guard at the Richmond RAAF Base chased an intruder who tried to escape via an old staircase.

staid	maid	raid	laid
braid	afraid	paid	

During a WW2 air raid, the staid maid dragged the carpet she laid with her braid because she was afraid that she wouldn't be paid.

move	prove	mobile
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If you can't move, you're not mobile; it's easy to prove.

for	forty	four	pour
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poor	door	floor	
-------------	-------------	--------------	--

Pour Simon Sprout from Brussels is overweight because of his **height**. He is only **forty-four**. He sleeps outside on the veranda **floor** because he can't get **through** the **door**. That's why he looks so **forlorn**.

bean	dean	mean	lean
sausage	sauce	Australian	

Sally and Dean Stringbean are as **lean** as an **Australian sausage**. They're too **mean** to use tomato **sauce**.

stomach	spinach	ache
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Tom has a **stomach ache**; he ate too much **spinach**. Remember: heal – healthy, weal – wealthy, steal – stealthy.

obvious	conspicuous	generous
illustrious	industrious	anonymous monotonous

It's **obvious** that a **conspicuous**, **generous**, **illustrious** and **industrious** individual cannot

remain **anonymous**; that would be too monotonous. So she organised an adventurous pancake party with delicious dessert in the Simpson Desert!

circumstance	dance	chance	France
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Under no **circumstance** will you have a **chance** to **dance** around the Eiffel Tower in **France**.

Grant	giant	ant	pants	rant
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Grant was bitten by a **giant** bull **ant** hidden in his under**pants** so he started to rave and **rant**.

Remember: **pie**, **piece**, **niece**, **priest**, **thief**, **yield**, **cricket field**.

read	thread	bread	spread	dread
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I **read** Mrs **Threadbare**, choked on a slice of **bread** with **lemon spread**. Isn't that **dreadful**!

Ted	bled	bed	shed	red
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Ted's nose **bled** when he fell out of his **bed** in the **shed**. Now, the floor is **red**.

mason	son	button	London
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prison	dragon	falcon	lesson
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glutton	mutton	poison	matron
bacon	crimson	apron	Devon
melon	lemon		

Ben Button, a mason's son from London is in prison because he had killed a dragon during a driving lesson in a Ford Falcon. When the glutton swallowed poisonous mutton, Mrs Bacon, a matron from Devon who always wore a crimson apron, fed him melon with lemon rather than salmon. Note: salmon English: salm Dutch: zalm (I pronounced)

dress	less	mess	press	guess
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Jessy's dress was more or less in a mess, so she was not impressed I guess: Did she say so? Yes!

task	ask	mask	cask	bask
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It's a difficult task to ask a question to someone wearing a gasmask and drinking wine from a cask while basking in the sun.

any	many	for	forty	fur
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Shopkeeper: You can buy **any** fur coat **for** **forty** dollars. Customer: How **many** have you got?
Remember: Tom is a good **customer**.

new	knew	Jew	mew
pew	view	crew	screw

1. What's **new**? I wish I **knew**!
2. The **mew** had a good **view** of the **few** Jews sitting on an abandoned **pew** without screws.

who	which	whom
when	what	why

Knock, knock. **Who's** there? Your neighbour.
Which one? The one to **whom** you spoke. **When**?
This morning. **What** was it about? **Why**?

Maths	bath	path	soak	cloak
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Our Maths teacher Oliver **Oak** sat in a **bath** on his **footpath** to **soak** his **cloak**.

leaf	sheaf	leaves	sheaves	eaves
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The corn **sheaves** under the **eaves** were covered in **leaves** because they had been there for years.

oaf	loaf	goal
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coat	coach	throat
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A lazy oaf stole a fresh fruit loaf. When the ex-goalkeeper tried to hide it under his coat, his ex-coach grabbed him by the throat.

vale	male	female
mail	rail	air

In Moss Vale, airmail and rail mail is delivered by males and females.

wrong	wrist	wring	wrestle
wrench	sword	wrap	wrinkle
wretched	wreck		

1. Traffic sign **Wrong** Association: **wrist**
Way **watch**
 Go back!

2. You need to use your wrist to wring wet towels. To wrestle or to use a wrench.

3. The wretched sword was wrapped up in a wrinkled, white cloth. I took a while to unwrap.

Remember:

1. Wrestle – wrestling. Wrinkle – wrinkling.

2. Towel – towelling.

3. Sign: Sailor with sailer for sale.

4. Sword – zwaard (Dutch)

knead	knuckle	knight	kneel
knee	knoll	knapsack	knackery
knock	knew	knack	knurl
knob	knit	knife	knout
knickers	knot		

After kneading the bread dough with his knuckles Kevin Knight kneeled down on one knee to put it in his knapsack. Then he drove to his friend Jove who lived near the knackery on top of a knoll in Castle Cove to bake it in his oven.

Knock, knock. Come in! Kevin knew the knack needed to turn the knurled doorknob. It had to be done with a knitting needle, a knife or a knout.

After fiddling around for ten minutes, Jove's wife yelled, "Just a minute, don't get your knickers in a knot!"

meal	meat	veal	steak
beans	peas	pears	peaches

Meal: Potatoes, beans, peas, veal, steak, cold meat. Dessert: Pears or peaches with cream.

hoarse	throat	croup
should	soup	group

If you have a hoarse throat, you should have soup. Make sure you don't go near others in your group.

pupil	civil	council	tranquil
pistol	April	fossil	pencil
stencil	peril	tonsil	weevil
nostril	cavil	evil	devil

swan	want	wash	worm	water
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The swan wanted to wash itself in warm water.

cruise	built	fruit
juice	biscuit	suit

During a world cruise, a heavily built man spilt fruit juice and chocolate biscuit on his good suit, so now it is unsuitable.

Remember:

Her husband is a drummer in a **band**.
Unfortunately, he hit his **hand**.

sheaves	heavy	heave	leave	eaves
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The sheaves are too heavy to heave, so leave them under the eaves please.

Remember:

Bears don't wear underwear.

prize	size	disguise	wise
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The first **prize** is a life-**size** murderer in **disguise**. I don't think that's **wise**.

allege	allergic	allot	align
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It is **alleged** that the legs of prisoners who are **allergic** to the **allotted** food they eat, will eventually get out of **alignment**.

once	month	Monday	wolf
mother	brother	money	honey
donkey	monkey		

Once a month on a Monday, Mrs Wolf, her little **wolves**, her **mother** and **two brothers** go to

Sydney to spend money on honey for her donkey and her monkey who has only one kidney.

Remember:

One second.

nurse	purse	curse
purchase	liverwurst	

When a pencil – thin man picked her pocket to steal her purse, the burly nurse cursed. She chased him in vain so then she couldn't purchase liverwurst.

Remember:

Organise – organic.

beauty	beast	feast	at	year
			least	

The beauty and the beast went East to have a feast for at least a year.

Remember:

Different – differential

The Saints	complained complaint	faint
faint	restraint	

One of the **saints** **complained**, that, owing to the smell of **paint**, he would **faint** without **restraint**.

Remember:

1. A piece of **pie**
2. Peace on **earth**

meal	real	veal	deal	heal
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To have a **meal** with **real** **veal** is not a big **deal** but it's **healthy**.

Remember:

1. **Heal** – **healthy**, **weal** – **wealthy**, **steal** – **stealthy**.
- 2.

wrong way	wrist	wring wet	wrestle
wrench	wrangle	wrath	sword
wretched	wreck	wrap	wrinkle

wreath	wraith	boatswain	cox
			wain

Pronunciation and **Meaning** first!

You need to use your **wrists** to **wring** wet towels, to **wrestle** or to use a **wrench**.

“Instead of **wrangling** in **wrath**, you need a strong **wrist** to handle a **sword** in order to avoid becoming a **wretched wreck** or being **wrapped** up in a **wrinkled tarp** with a **wreath** on top to only return as a **wraith**,” answered the **boatswain** when the **coxswain** asked him a difficult question.

croak	boat	cloak	coat
soak	oak	oats	soap

One hundred frogs **croaked** when the **boatman** put his **cloak** and his **coat** to **soak** in an **oaken** bucket with **oatmeal soap**.

portrait	wait	gait
straight	Strait	bait

Peter **Portrait**, a **waiter** who walked with a funny **gait**, went **straight** to **Bass Strait** to buy **bait**.

Remember:

One woman, two women. One man, two men.

walk	stalk	talk	chalk
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Jack walked up the beanstalk to talk to Mrs Chalk.

reap	leap	cheap
heap	pear	peach

Mr Reaper tried to leap over the heap of cheap pears and peaches. (usual – usually)

hare	bare	mare	square
scare	care	spare	

A hare raced bare back on a mare around the local square. It scared the daylight out of the people who were there, but they couldn't care until finally, they didn't have air to spare.

wire	Shire	tired	tyre
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The wire – thin Shire president was too tired to change his tyre after the fire.

stove	above	oven
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The stove is above the oven.

dream	team	scream
streamer	stream	

When our dream team scored a try, the fans threw streamers while screaming to let of steam.

legitimate	delegate	senate
estimate	electorate	unfortunate
moderate	obstinate	desperate
private	considerate	affectionate
delegate	elaborate	immediate
ultimate	deliberate	intricate
certificate	triplicate	

Neither distillate nor chocolate: The legitimate delegate for the Senate was given an estimate of the number of people in his electorate who were unfortunately moderately obstinate and desperate to immediately get rid of him despite the fact that, in his private life, he was a considerate, affectionate albeit delicate man. Consequently, the said conglomerate presented him with an elaborate and deliberately intricate certificate in triplicate instead of duplicate.

Word building:

1. Delegate-delegation. Moderate-in moderation. Desperate-desperation. Immediate-mediation.
2. Sequence-consequently
3. Labour-elaborate

bale	gale	male	tale	stale
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Fairy **tale**: A **male** giant from Moss **Vale** ate nothing else but **stale** bread. Yet, he could lift a **bale** of hay over the Blue Mountains during a gusty **gale**. The **bale** was not for **sale**.

fail	hail	mail	tail	snail
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During the **tail** end of a heavy **hail**storm. Mr **Snail**, nearly forty-four years old, **failed** to deliver the **mail**.

Remember:

Leave, heave, heavy

friend	priest	niece
piece	field	

Mr Magpie, a friend of the local priest's niece used to own a large piece of the new cricket field.

Remember:

Local-locally-locality-location.

promise	practise	premises
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Our doctor promised to practise acupuncture in his new premises.

Remember:

Worm, work, world, word, worse, worst, worth (wolf-wolves).

aft	daft	raft	shaft
craft	after	raft	

Ralph Rafter gets dafter and dafter. After building a raft with a crankshaft fore and aft, it will go faster than an aircraft.

1. Discovering the silent: 1 house – 2 houses, else – someone else's.

fair	fairy	fairly
hair	pair	chair

A fairy with fairly long hair stood on a chair to cut it with a pair of scissors.

Note: s for sound, s for cut, o for the holes.

break	breakfast	cereals
real	cream	bread

Eat words: Have a break! Have a bowl of cereals with real cream or a slice of bread with peanut butter with a cup of tea. Note: cars have brakes.

rein	weird	weir
vein	their heir	skein

Ralph Reindeer had been a weird character, one night, after attending a birthday party; he drove his car into a weir on his property. He instantly died because of rupture varicose veins. All his heirs will inherit is a skein of geese, so that will deflate their hopes of getting rich.

Remember:

Vowel changes 1. Price – precious.

2. Heir – heritage.

