



Lesson 1

No Nonsense English

8-9
years

Syllables

1. Underline the double consonants, then split these words into two syllables.

a filling _____/_____

b hurry _____/_____

c cannon _____/_____

d horrid _____/_____

2. Write a two-syllable word with double consonants that matches each definition.

a the opposite of sad _____

b a tool for banging nails in _____

c a bright colour _____

d An animal that lives in a burrow _____

Lesson 2

Homophones

1. Choose the correct homophones to complete these sentences.

a We are going to _____ (sale/sail) from the end of the _____ (pier/peer).

b I _____ (heard/herd) that you buy it by _____ (male/mail).

c Please can _____ (ewe/you) mend the _____ (seam/seem) of my dress?

d The _____ (bear/bare) was standing just over _____ (there/their).

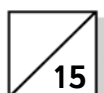
e What will you _____ (where/wear) to go to _____ (tee/tea)?

f It was an enormous photo of a _____ (flee/flea) or a _____ (might/mite).

g The helicopter _____ (rows/rose) suddenly and _____ (whirred/word) off.

0	Tough	OK
		Got it!
		15

Total





Regular verb endings

1. Add the correct past tense ending, where needed, to these verbs.

- a** He follow____ the troll, climb____ over the stile and continue____ on his way.
b Anne call____ loudly. She wait____ for a reply. She shout____ again.
c I hope____ to go to London. At last I climb____ onto a train.

2. Add the correct verb ending, where needed.

- a** The arrows were whizz____ through the air. One land____ on the wall at his side.
b "We must run____" he shout____. "The soldiers are climb____ the gate."
c They start____ to run. Sir Richard's sword clatter____ on the ground as they went. A rock crash____ against his shield. Too late he remember____ the golden ring.

Irregular verb endings

1. Write the past tense of these verbs.

- a** swim _____ **b** make _____ **c** sink _____
d bring _____ **e** blow _____ **f** buy _____

2. Complete the sentences with the past tense of the verbs in brackets.

- a** He _____ the ball above his head. (catch)
b I _____ the wrong number. (ring)
c The men _____ the horses a long way off. (see)
d Ishmail _____ a packed lunch on the school trip. (take)

0	Tough	OK	Got it!	16
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Total





Suffixes

**1. Make new words from these roots by adding one of these suffixes:
ness hood ment ship**

a small _____ **b** place _____ **c** happy _____

d likely _____ **e** gloomy _____ **f** head _____

2. Complete each sentence with a word ending in 'ness', 'ship' or 'ment'.

a I was astonished. They could see the am _____ on my face.

b Man U are in the race to win the prem _____.

c The princess was turned into a frog of extraordinary ug _____

More suffixes

**1. Add one of these suffixes to the correct word below to complete each sentence:
en ify ise ate. Remember, you may need to change the end of the word first.**

pollen terror bright tight mode

a Robin tried to _____ the rope to stop himself slipping.

b The clouds lifted and the sky began to _____.

c Bees _____ flowers.

d Mrs James will need to _____ Sunil's address details once he has moved house.

e Bandits started to _____ the kingdom.

0	Tough	OK
		Got it!
		14

Total





Lesson 7

No Nonsense English

Verbs

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1. Complete each sentence with the correct present tense form of the verb in brackets.

- a** The car _____ off down the road and _____ round the bend. (hurry/roar)
b Until the light _____, he _____ to keep working. (fail/hope)
c I _____ to get there before the clock _____ ten. (want/strike)

2. Choose the correct form of the past tense to complete each sentence.

- a** Mehmet _____ himself to swim. He _____ every day. (teach/swim)
b He _____ the ball to his sister. She _____ it. (throw/catch)
c The pirates _____ and _____ all day long. (eat/drink)

Lesson 8

Verb tenses

1. Say whether each underlined verb is past, present or future tense.

- a** I thought about it for a very long time. _____
b They left yesterday. _____ They are coming back today. _____
c I will call again tomorrow after lunch. _____
d "Tell me what to do" _____ she said. _____
e The food was ghastly yesterday. _____ I hope it will be better tomorrow. _____

0	Tough	OK
	Got it!	11

Total

11



Powerful verbs

1. Think of a powerful verb to replace each underlined verb.

- a** The car went _____ down the road. It sounded _____ its horn.
- b** "What?" he said. _____ He held _____ my arm.
- c** The rock flew _____ through the air and went _____ into the pond.
- d** The wind blew _____ in their faces as they cut _____ down the first tree.
- e** "Stop it!" called _____ a small voice. Their axes dropped _____ to the ground.
- f** It was too late. The tree fell _____ to the ground. The branches broke off. _____
- g** From the stump a bird flew _____ into the air. It called _____ and flew off.

Lesson 10

Adverbs

1. Underline all the adverbs.

The doves sang softly in the trees and the wind played lightly on the grass. We hurried on quickly. We were walking well but we wanted to go faster. Suddenly Yan yelled loudly and disappeared down a hole. We ran anxiously towards him.

2. Choose different 'how' adverbs to complete these pairs of sentences.

- a** I played _____ yesterday but I played _____ today.
- b** The horse could run both _____ and _____ .
- c** Nadia jumped up _____ and spoke _____ to her teacher, Mrs Upton.

0	Tough	OK
		Got it!
		11

Total

11



Lesson 11

No Nonsense English

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More adverbs

1. Choose one of these adverbial phrases to complete these sentences.

quite suddenly without a doubt with any luck up here far too little

- a** "Look. He must have hidden the money _____."
- b** After eating the apple, Snow White _____ fell to the floor.
- c** He was the best player in the tournament _____.
- d** The food they had was _____ to feed everyone who had turned up.
- e** The dog should be able to find its own way home _____.

Lesson 12

Phrases and clauses

1. Write whether these are phrases or clauses.

- a** under the main stage _____
- b** he walked away _____
- c** he quickly got down again _____
- d** the birds on the roof _____
- e** my worst nightmare happened _____
- f** it was all his fault _____
- g** his worst fault ever _____
- h** up they got _____

0	Tough	OK	Got it!	13
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Total

13



Speech marks and commas

1. Put the speech marks round the spoken words in these sentences.

- a** After tea, said Mike, I'm going round there to get my ball back.
- b** Halt! cried the dwarf. No mortal enters Zendor and lives.
- c** My thumb is magic, he whispered. It can cast spells. It can kill.

2. Write speech marks and commas in these sentences where needed.

- a** Don't wait for me he called I've lost all my money.
- b** Where on earth did you get that hat? she asked.
- c** Whatever you do the creature croaked you must not look back at the queen.
- d** Please let go he yelped I'll never come here again.

Lesson 14

Commas

1. Separate the items in the lists using commas and 'and' where necessary.

- a** The pirates used swords spades lanterns ropes to hunt for treasure.
- b** My recipe needs eggs flour milk butter sugar.
- c** I put the old useless wooden spade out for the dustmen.

2. Use commas to separate the extra information from the rest of the sentence.

- a** Dingo my dog and Spotty my Mum's cat went rushing up the street.
- b** Whatever you do Mr Jones you'll never get your money back now.
- c** Itchy the flying flea will now leap from the top of the fridge.

0	Tough	13
	OK	Got it!

Total





Lesson 15

No Nonsense English

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Classic fiction

1. Read the extract again. Then write True or False after each statement.

- a** The boat sank close to the shore. _____
- b** Swimming made Gulliver very tired. _____
- c** The rope that held him down was thick. _____
- d** There were forty-one little people on the beach. _____
- e** The man's hat was round. _____
- f** His cloak was pure gold. _____
- g** Gulliver laughed because his voice frightened the people. _____
- h** The little man was proud to be the Emperor of Lilliput. _____

Lesson 16

Fact and opinion

1. Read the extract again. Then write True or False after each statement.

- a** Bengal tigers do not like to go near water. _____
- b** Tigers travel in groups to protect their young. _____
- c** Tigers cannot hear very well. _____
- d** Necklaces are made from their teeth. _____
- e** In China people believe tiger whiskers are poisonous. _____
- f** White ear spots can probably be seen in the dark. _____
- g** People know exactly how many tigers are left in the world. _____

0	Tough	OK	Got it!	15
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Total





Lesson 17

No Nonsense English

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Using a dictionary

1. Put these words in alphabetical order.

a glow glory glad glum glib

b choir church chestnut chunk chair

c sprinkle sprain sprint spree

d wrinkle wrist wring wriggle

Lesson 18

Plurals

1. Write the plural form of these words.

a shelf _____ **b** cove _____ **c** knife _____

d cave _____ **e** hive _____ **f** puff _____

g half _____ **h** thief _____ **i** wife _____

2. Write the singular form of these words.

a waves _____ **b** vases _____ **c** hooves _____

d reefs _____ **e** dwarves _____ **f** staffs _____

0	Tough	OK
		Got it!
		19

Total
19

**Words endings: ight and ite**

1. Tick the words spelt correctly and write the correct spellings of the incorrectly spelt words.

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a knite _____ | b write _____ | c lite _____ |
| d kite _____ | e nite _____ | f spight _____ |
| g excight _____ | h brite _____ | i slight _____ |
| j white _____ | k fright _____ | l quight _____ |

Lesson 20

Prefixes

1. Complete the sentences by adding one of these prefixes to each word in brackets.
ad af al a

- a** Do not _____ the television set. (just)
- b** He could see into the room because the door was _____. (jar)
- c** The ship sank but they all swam _____. (shore)
- d** She wanted me to _____ her dress, but I disliked it. (mire)
- e** It was _____ morning when Julia finally got to sleep. (most)
- f** The word _____ means to frighten. (fright)

0	Tough	OK
		Got it!
		18

Total
18



Lesson 21

No Nonsense English

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Gender

1. Rewrite these sentences, changing the nouns into the opposite gender.

a His daughters were all countesses.

b The actor who played the hero was his father.

c The tigress attacked the prince and the queen.

d My uncle bought a bull and a gander.

Lesson 22

Making adjectives

1. Complete the sentences by adding the correct suffix to the words in brackets.

a His results were worse than bad. They were _____. (fright)

b The vandals smashed the sign. It was a completely _____ act. (mind)

c There was no sound in the forest – the area seemed _____. (life)

d The weather alters all the time. It's very _____. (change)

e The newspaper article included some _____ details of the robbery. (shock)

f He found the exam extremely _____. (drain)

g The dress she bought was extraordinarily _____. (colour)

h According to the label, the shirt was machine _____. (wash)

0	Tough	OK
		Got it!
		12

Total
12



Comparatives and superlatives

1. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the adjectives in brackets.

- a** It was _____ today than yesterday. (warm)
b John is _____ than Tim but Jane is the _____. (old)
c My results were _____ than Sue's. Ron's were the _____ in the school. (good)
d A pig is _____ than a duck. (heavy)
e It was the _____ day of our holiday. (rainy)
f The _____ team was the Spanish one. (slow)

Similes

1. Complete each sentence with the most suitable word.

rake clown bird night peacock bell arrow

- a** He could hear his Dad's voice as clear as a _____ from the bottom of the garden.
b Rajiv's Mum was as proud as a _____ when he won the cross-country race.
c Inside the cave, it was as black as _____.
d He's as thin as a _____.
e The ball flew towards the goal as straight as an _____.
f I'm as happy as a _____ now that school has finished for the summer holidays.
g When he was flying the aeroplane, he felt as free as a _____.

0	Tough	OK
		Got it!
		13

Total





Powerful adjectives

1. Replace each word in brackets with a more powerful adjective.

- a** The pitch was (bad) _____ and the weather was (hot) _____.
- b** The cave was (cold) _____ and (frightening) _____.
- c** The show was (poor) _____ apart from one (good) _____ juggler.
- d** Oliver Twist was given a (small) _____ bowl of porridge.
- e** The car's engine sounded (loud) _____ in the (quiet) _____ street.
- f** He thought the cake was (nice) _____ but the tea was (unpleasant) _____.

Lesson 26

Making more adjectives

1. Add 'ish', 'er' or 'est' to the words in brackets to complete the sentences.

- a** He knew it was _____ to enter the mine on his own. (fool)
- b** It was the _____ tackle he'd ever seen. (clumsy)
- c** A thrush is _____ than an eagle. A wren is the _____. (small)
- d** It was the _____ sack of all, _____ even than the one he'd brought. (heavy)
- e** He's the _____ child in the class. He's even _____ than the teacher. (bright)
- f** Of the three bridges, this is the _____. (long)

0	Tough	OK
		Got it!
		12

Total
12



Adverbs and adjectives

1. Underline the adverbs and circle the adjectives in these sentences.

- a** The green parrot flew incredibly fast.
- b** He put the food carefully into the hot oven and went out.
- c** No one really thought the black box was locked. They were wrong.
- d** He ran fast but couldn't catch the mysterious man who quietly vanished into a large crowd.
- e** The train was old and slow and puffed loudly.
- f** I waited patiently at the door. There was a faint tinkling sound within.
- g** The gondor slowly sharpened his powerful claws on the strange rock.

Lesson 28

Possessives 1

1. Rewrite these phrases using an apostrophe to show possession.

- a** The dog of the baron. _____
- b** The friend of the old dog. _____
- c** A newspaper belonging to the friend. _____

2. Write these phrases out in full so that an apostrophe isn't needed.

- a** Sam's horse. _____
- b** The table's leg. _____
- c** The onion's skin. _____

0	Tough	OK
		Got it!
		13

Total
13



Possessives 2

1. Write the plural form of the nouns in brackets, using apostrophes to show possession.

- a** The _____ windows are not properly fixed. (house)
- b** The _____ rail services were badly effected by the weather. (town)
- c** The _____ weapons were useless. (army)
- d** My _____ presents were wonderful. (friend)
- e** My _____ car broke down on the way to the ferry terminal. (parent)
- f** I couldn't find the _____ nest anywhere. (wasp)

Its and it's

1. Choose it's or its to complete these sentences.

- a** I could see _____ nest under the roof tiles.
- b** I hope _____ going to be OK to call this afternoon.
- c** I wanted to inspect _____ leg, but the dog howled.
- d** "_____ OK, the show hasn't started yet, _____ running late!"
- e** "Look!" he cried. "_____ lost _____ front wheel."
- f** _____ caught _____ front leg in _____ reins.
- g** "_____ the black briefcase I want," he whispered. He leant across and picked it up by _____ leather strap.

0	Tough	OK
		Got it!
		13

Total



**Expressive language**

1. Read the extract again, then write True or False after each statement.

- a** The weather was bad in the city. _____
- b** It was built on the banks of a lake. _____
- c** There were many domes in the city. _____
- d** All the buildings in the city were light and airy. _____
- e** The walls of the houses were in poor repair. _____
- f** There were trolls living in the city. _____
- g** The man who ruled the city was quite pleasant. _____

Explanatory texts

1. Read the extract again, then write True or False after each statement.

- a** Evaporation mainly happens at night. _____
- b** Bonfire smoke is a sign of rising hot air. _____
- c** Water vapour makes the hot air rise. _____
- d** Water droplets are formed when the air is warmed. _____
- e** The water vapour may condense as a liquid or a solid. _____
- f** Whether water vapour condenses as rain or ice, depends on air temperature. _____
- g** Most precipitation soaks into the ground. _____

0	Tough	14
	OK	Got it!

Total





Lesson 33

No Nonsense English

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Letter strings: wa and wo

1. Answer these clues using 'wa' words. Write 1, 2 or 3 to show how 'wa' is pronounced in each word.

- a** A large white bird. _____
- b** To walk with your feet in water. _____
- c** The opposite of cool. _____

2. Answer these clues using 'wo' words. Write 1 or 2 to show how 'wo' is pronounced in each word.

- a** The opposite of best. _____
- b** Furniture is often made from this material. _____
- c** These are made up of letters. _____

Lesson 34

Letter strings: ough and ou

1. Group these words in the columns below, according to their pronunciation.

round tour mould soup house mound trouble sought poultry you

oh

ow

oo

uh

aw

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

0	Tough	OK	Got it!	16
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Total
16



Common roots

1. Write two words for each of the common roots below.

a port:	_____	_____
b auto:	_____	_____
c trans:	_____	_____
d sub:	_____	_____
e graph:	_____	_____
f circum:	_____	_____

Vowel suffixes

1. Add the correct suffix to each of these words and write them in the columns below.

terror	specify	explode	history	exhaust	biology	drama	journal	science	alternate
ive				ic				ist	
_____				_____				_____	
_____				_____				_____	
_____				_____				_____	
_____				_____				_____	

0	Tough	OK	Got it!	16
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Total

16



Lesson 37

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Compound words

1. Match the correct pairs and write the compound words.

a sky	bow	_____	g butter	case	_____
b green	spawn	_____	h wood	rope	_____
c tea	scraper	_____	i tight	work	_____
d rain	port	_____	j eye	cup	_____
e air	pot	_____	k rain	brow	_____
f frog	house	_____	l brief	coat	_____

Lesson 38

Diminutives

1. Choose the correct prefix or suffix to complete these diminutives.

	let	mini	ette	ling
a	_____ kitchen _____	f	_____ bus _____	
b	_____ leaf _____	g	_____ sap _____	
c	_____ drop _____	h	_____ skirt _____	
d	_____ ring _____	i	_____ seed _____	
e	_____ statue _____	j	_____ dump _____	

0	Tough	OK
	Got it!	22

Total

22



Verb endings

1. Complete the sentences with the forms of the verbs and tenses shown in brackets.

- a** When they heard my car, the eagles _____ away. (to fly / past tense)
- b** People on the beach _____ a shock when the tide comes in. (to have / future tense)
- c** The snow _____ down early that year. (to come / past tense)
- d** I'm afraid I _____ to arrest him on the spot. (to have / past tense)
- e** The wolves _____ howling through the trees in the moonlight. (to run / past tense)
- f** After lunch, you _____ the house we're building. (to see / future tense)

Comparative endings

1. Change these adjectives into comparisons by adding the suffixes 'er' and 'est'.

- a** cool _____
- b** brave _____
- c** friendly _____

2. Choose either more or most to complete these sentences.

- a** I wanted to buy her the _____ expensive present I could afford.
- b** This one is certainly _____ beautiful than that one.
- c** Quite honestly, it's the _____ stupid thing I've ever heard.

0	Tough	OK	Got it!	12
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Total

12



Plural nouns

1. Write the plural form of these nouns.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| a cupboard _____ | b Tuesday _____ | c kangaroo _____ |
| d penalty _____ | e pitch _____ | f tagliatelli _____ |
| g box _____ | h trolley _____ | i larva _____ |
| j dress _____ | k trousers _____ | l bacterium _____ |
| m swatch _____ | n ravioli _____ | o trophy _____ |
| p cargo _____ | q foot _____ | r telephone _____ |

Connectives

1. Underline the conjunctions and connecting adverbs in these sentences.

- a** There isn't room outside for an extension; furthermore it would be too expensive.
- b** "You can't go outside until you have finished your homework and tidied your room."
- c** Grandad bought me a new pair of swimming goggles because I broke my old pair yesterday.
- d** Provided that it doesn't rain, we'll take a picnic to the park this afternoon.
- e** I read my adventure novel, while Mum submitted our weekly shopping order on the Internet.
- f** The train was delayed; consequently we were late for the show.
- g** My sister bought another pair of shoes this morning, even though she already has more pairs than she can wear in a week!

0	Tough	25
	OK	Got it!

Total
25



Different kinds of sentences

1. Change these statements into questions.

- a** I'm going to the theatre tonight. _____
- b** Yan will sit next to me in assembly. _____
- c** We're learning about sentences today. _____

2. Change these sentences into negative statements.

- a** We will wash the car after lunch. _____
- b** I can watch TV after dinner. _____
- c** Sophie may come round at the weekend, as we might be going to the theme park.

Colons and semi-colons

1. Write in the missing colons and semi-colons in these sentences.

- a** The recipe needed 1lb of tomatoes 2 large onions 1 red pepper and ½lb of mushrooms.
- b** The dedication read 'To Mum, thanks for everything.'
- c** He enjoyed playing tennis it was a great game.
- d** The directions are as follows turn right at the traffic lights, then continue straight ahead.
- e** She wasn't sure she needed to think.
- f** I still need to buy a new top put my trousers into the dry cleaners find a new pair of shoes buy a present for Grandma and spend my music voucher on that new CD.

0	Tough	OK
		Got it!
		12

Total





Hyphens

1. Write in the missing hyphens in these sentences.

- a** Josh is Mary's brother in law and he's twenty one years old.
- b** She gave him an up to date list of people she had invited to the party.
- c** Elephants are four legged mammals, while spiders are eight legged arachnids.
- d** The sign read: 'Beware man eating tiger!'
- e** The councillor was re elected for a second term in office.
- f** Sarah gave a first class performance as the ten year old daughter in the school play.
- g** The packet contained fifty four chocolate covered peanuts and raisins.

Dashes

1. Rewrite these sentences, putting in the missing dashes.

- a** I know it's here somewhere but where? _____
- b** We had a great time on the school trip especially when it rained!

- c** Sarah the girl standing with Misha is nine years old tomorrow.

- d** I couldn't find the brooch the brooch that my Grandma gave me.

- e** She had signed it hadn't she? _____

0	Tough	12
	OK	Got it!

Total

12



Lesson 47

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Poetry

1. Read the poem again, then write True or False next to the following statements.

- a** The deer were standing at the edge of a lake. _____
- b** The poet compares the deer to dancers. _____
- c** The deer were listening for wolves. _____
- d** Their coats were made from wool. _____
- e** The poet was watching the deer from the trees. _____
- f** The poet was not able to stroke one of the deer. _____
- g** The deer's coats were black. _____

Lesson 48

Persuasive writing

1. Read the article again, then write True or False next to the following statements.

- a** According to the article, litter does not cause disease to spread. _____
- b** The article is structured into six paragraphs. _____
- c** The writer includes three rhetorical questions in the article. _____
- d** Litter creates itself. _____
- e** The article tells you how to recycle bottles and cans. _____
- f** The writer gives five examples of litter. _____
- g** People who drop litter are called litter-bugs. _____

0	Tough	14
	OK	Got it!

Total
14



Copy this piece of writing on the lines underneath.

Under the mat they could see the frog.
One eye looked at them. A green foot slid
wetly out. Then another. It croaked softly
as if it were trying to say something. Then
it hopped right out and looked around the
room.