English tests

Grammar, punctuation and spelling

Paper 3: spelling task
administrator instructions
Notes for use of this script

The task should take approximately ten minutes to complete, although you should allow the children as much time as they need to complete it.

Please read out the instructions as stated below. Once you have read out the instructions, you should ask the children whether they have any questions.

Listen carefully to the instructions I am going to give you.

I am going to read fifteen sentences to you. Each sentence has a word missing in your answer booklet. You should listen carefully to the missing word and fill this in, making sure you spell it correctly.

I will read the word, then the word within a sentence, then repeat the word a third time.

Do you have any questions?

Once the children’s questions have been answered, the fifteen spellings should be read as follows:

1. Give the spelling number
2. Say ‘The word is…’
3. Read the context sentence
4. Repeat ‘The word is…’

Leave at least a twelve-second gap between spellings.

Finally, you should read all fifteen sentences again.

Give the children the opportunity to make any changes they wish to their answers.

At the end of the task, say:

This is the end of the task – now please put down your pen or pencil.
Spelling task

Spelling 1: The word is achieve.
You should use this paint if you want to achieve a long-lasting shine.
The word is achieve.

Spelling 2: The word is cartridge.
The cartridge needs to be replaced before you press the green button.
The word is cartridge.

Spelling 3: The word is league.
The team finished second in the league last year.
The word is league.

Spelling 4: The word is extinguish.
The firefighters managed to extinguish the flames quickly.
The word is extinguish.

Spelling 5: The word is collisions.
The children ran carefully in order to avoid collisions in the playground.
The word is collisions.

Spelling 6: The word is miracle.
The scientist hoped that his new discovery would be a miracle cure.
The word is miracle.

Spelling 7: The word is honourable.
Declan knew that apologising was the honourable thing to do.
The word is honourable.

Spelling 8: The word is sincerely.
The teacher sincerely hoped that things would go better next time.
The word is sincerely.
Spelling 9: The word is parallel.
Janine drew two parallel lines.
The word is parallel.

Spelling 10: The word is murmur.
Matt heard a quiet murmur from behind the door.
The word is murmur.

Spelling 11: The word is broccoli.
Some of my favourite vegetables include carrots, broccoli and beans.
The word is broccoli.

Spelling 12: The word is parliament.
Many countries have a parliament of elected leaders.
The word is parliament.

Spelling 13: The word is siege.
During the siege of the castle, the outer walls were damaged.
The word is siege.

Spelling 14: The word is correspondent.
The newspaper’s sports correspondent wrote an article about the match.
The word is correspondent.

Spelling 15: The word is restaurant.
We went to a restaurant to celebrate the happy occasion.
The word is restaurant.

You should now read all fifteen sentences again.
Give the children the opportunity to make any changes they wish to their answers.

At the end of the task, say: This is the end of the task – now please put down your pen or pencil.

[End of task]
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