

# Using Reference Materials to Check Spelling

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_ / 10



## Quick Review

When you are unsure how to spell a word, use a **DICTIONARY** (book or online), a **SPELL CHECKER**, or a **SPELLING NOTEBOOK**. A dictionary lists words in alphabetical order with the correct spelling and meaning.

## PRACTICE

Choose or write the **BEST** answer for each item.

1. Where would you look to find the **CORRECT SPELLING** of a tricky word?
  - A. a math textbook
  - B. a dictionary
  - C. a comic book
  - D. a recipe
2. If a dictionary lists words alphabetically, which word comes **FIRST**?
  - A. zebra
  - B. apple
  - C. tiger
  - D. bear
3. Which word would come right **AFTER** *cat* in a dictionary?
  - A. car
  - B. bat
  - C. catch
  - D. act
4. Which feature of a dictionary helps you find a word quickly?
  - A. the price on the back cover
  - B. the guide words at the top of each page
  - C. the table of contents
  - D. the page numbers in the middle



5. If you type a word into a spell checker and it shows a wavy red line, that means —
  - A. the word is perfect.
  - B. the word might be misspelled — check it.
  - C. the computer is broken.
  - D. you should erase the whole sentence.
6. Which step is BEST if you are unsure how a word is spelled?
  - A. Guess and move on.
  - B. Look it up in a dictionary or use a spell checker.
  - C. Ask a friend to make up a spelling.
  - D. Skip the word.
7. A dictionary entry shows a word, its PRONUNCIATION, its part of speech, and its —
  - A. price.
  - B. meaning (definition).
  - C. phone number.
  - D. favorite color.
8. Which word comes FIRST in a dictionary?
  - A. mouse
  - B. moose
  - C. monkey
  - D. mole
9. If you can't find a word in a small dictionary, you might try —
  - A. a thesaurus
  - B. a bigger dictionary or an online dictionary
  - C. a fairy tale
  - D. a calendar
10. Write the steps you would take to check the spelling of a hard word like *necessary*.

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## Answer Keys

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| <p>1 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>2 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>3 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input checked="" type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>4 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>5 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> | <p>6 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>7 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>8 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input checked="" type="radio"/> D</p> <p>9 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>10 <input type="text" value="See below"/></p> |
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| Explanations |   |
|--------------|---|
| <b>1. B</b>  | Dictionaries give correct spellings and definitions.  |
| <b>2. B</b>  | Apple starts with A — earliest in the alphabet.   |
| <b>3. C</b>  | Catch starts with c-a-t-c, which comes after c-a-t.   |
| <b>4. B</b>  | Guide words show the first and last word on each page so you can flip to the right area.  |
| <b>5. B</b>  | Spell checkers flag possibly wrong spellings. Look up the right form.   |
| <b>6. B</b>  | Use reliable tools to check spelling.   |
| <b>7. B</b>  | Definitions are a core part of dictionary entries.  |
| <b>8. D</b>  | Compare letters one at a time: mole comes before monkey, moose, mouse.  |
| <b>9. B</b>  | Larger / online dictionaries have more words.   |
| <b>10.</b>   | <b>Answer:</b> Example: Look up the word in a dictionary or type it into a trusted online dictionary; check the correct spelling letter by letter; write it down in my spelling notebook. Any clear, step-by-step process using a reliable reference. |



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