

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*.



Answer Keys

- 1 A B C D
- 2 A B C D
- 3 A B C D
- 4 A B C D
- 5 A B C D

- 6 A B C D
- 7 A B C D
- 8 A B C D
- 9 A B C D
- 10

Explanations

1. B	Dictionaries give correct spellings and definitions.
2. B	Apple starts with A — earliest in the alphabet.
3. C	Catch starts with c-a-t-c, which comes after c-a-t.
4. B	Guide words show the first and last word on each page so you can flip to the right area.
5. B	Spell checkers flag possibly wrong spellings. Look up the right form.
6. B	Use reliable tools to check spelling.
7. B	Definitions are a core part of dictionary entries.
8. D	Compare letters one at a time: mole comes before monkey, moose, mouse.
9. B	Larger / online dictionaries have more words.
10.	Answer: 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.



Want Even More Practice? Check Out Our Other New Mexico MSSA ELA Test Books!



Includes 5, 6, 7 & 8 Test Prep Books

New Mexico MSSA Grade 3 ELA Preparation Bundle

26 full-length practice tests across four books (5 + 6 + 7 + 8)

No repeated questions — maximum practice value!

▼ DOWNLOAD INSTANTLY ▼



SCAN ME

Point your phone camera at the code · instant access to all four books

26 Tests! 4 Books One Bundle

Important: All our test books contain **unique, completely different tests** from each other! Each book offers fresh practice questions — no repeats!

5 Practice Tests	6 Practice Tests	7 Practice Tests	8 Practice Tests
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 5 complete practice tests with detailed explanations ✓ Perfect foundation for MSSA ELA prep ✓ Builds confidence and test-taking skills ✓ High-quality questions aligned with standards <p>Start your practice journey!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 6 complete practice tests with detailed explanations ✓ Unique tests — different from the 5 tests book ✓ Perfect for more practice after mastering 5 tests ✓ Same high-quality questions aligned with standards <p>Take your practice to the next level!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 7 complete practice tests for deeper preparation ✓ Unique tests — different from 5 and 6 tests books ✓ Builds stamina with full-length practice ✓ Aligned to Grade 3 MSSA ELA standards <p>Maximum preparation power!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 8 complete practice tests — our largest book ✓ Unique tests — different from 5, 6 and 7 books ✓ Great for final review before test day ✓ Builds true test stamina and confidence <p>Be fully prepared!</p>

Get the bundle at [EffortlessMath.com](https://www.EffortlessMath.com) — scan the QR code above to open the product page.