

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. |



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