

Max Spelling Spoofs

Intelligence

You may be happy to learn that the ability to spell well has little to do with intelligence. Highly intelligent people can be lousy spellers. Regardless, spelling a word incorrectly is one of the biggest blunders you can commit, especially in a business letter or résumé.



Miss Pelling

was stunned when she realized she sent an email with a misspelled word!

Music

Spelling ability seems to be on the same order as musical ability. A misspelled word causes the same sense of anxiety and embarrassment in a good speller as a misplayed note causes in a good musician. Of course, in both spelling and music, everyone improves with practice.

Typos

Although spelling and intelligence may have little relationship, you should be intelligent enough *not* to send out a document that contains misspellings. And if occasionally a typo does slip through, just hope your reader is the forgiving sort, or a poor speller!

When in doubt, look it up!

Reputation

Whether you use a paper dictionary or a computerized spell checker or have someone else proofread your work, remember that your reputation and career may depend on proper spelling.

Accuracy

Try not to be too blue when an error slips through. If you make 1 error per 1000 words, you're still 99.9% accurate, which is an incredibly high standard!

Perfection

Perfection is not the goal in life...but the constant striving for perfection is.

Misspellings

Review the following misspellings, corrections, and BrainAids. Add your own.

Single vs. Double Consonants			
Misspelled	Correct	BrainAid	
accellerate	accelerate	Imagine "l" is a car stickshift between the e's.	
acomodate	accommodate	See 'em (cc mm) twice on one date.	
antena	antenna	An-ten-nA.	
apearance	appearance	Go to the A&P market to buy a pear.	
assasin	assassin	Put two donkeys in the barn (ass-ass-in).	
bookeeping	bookkeeping	K's=bookends for booK Keeping.	
comited	committed	Commit <i>Ted</i> to the asylum.	
comitt	commit	Commit to the fact that M & M candies are it.	
comittee	committee	The commit <u>tee</u> met at the golf <i>tee</i> .	
comittment	commitment	His commitment "ment" a lot.	
diarea	diarrhea	<u>rr</u> umble, <u>hea</u> ve	
disatisfy	dissatisfy	My brother Dis failed to satisfy.	
embarasment	embarrassment	2 rattlesnakes embarrass.	
harrasment	harassment	Laughing at someone is Har, har, har-ass-ment.	
hemmoroid	hemorrhoid	Either Hem o <u>r</u> <u>R</u> hoid did it.	
impecable	impeccable	Hungry birds like to "pec" cable.	
miscelaneous	miscellaneous	Mis <u>cell</u> aneous has a <i>cell</i> in it.	
necesary	necessary	Is it necessary to have a cesspool?	
ocasion	occasion	Oh, see (o c) Casio.	
ocupation	occupation	Oh, see (o c) cup of coffee.	
ocurence	occurrence	Oh, see (o c) doves curr (the sound doves make)	
oposite	opposite	Peter & Paul sit opposite.	
pallete	palette	Hey Pa, let Te do it!	
paralell	parallel	Tell El the golfer: <i>Par all El!</i>	
personell	personnel	You're a fine person, Nel!	
posess	possess	The posse possessed the villian, hiss	
prefered	preferred	I prefe <u>r</u> red colors.	
profesional	professional	Pro <u>fess</u> ional crooks rarely <i>fess</i> up.	
recurent	recurrent	If it recurs, it's current.	
refering	referring	Refer ring to the jeweler.	
roomate	roommate	Where's my room, mate?	
sucess	success	2 <u>c</u> ard <u>s</u> harks (<i>cc ss</i>) had su <u>ccess</u> .	
supress	suppress	Let's <i>sup</i> with the <i>press</i> tonight.	
tommorow	tomorrow	Would you rather beat the <i>tom or row</i> the boat? English / Spelling Spoofs © 12/11/2012 * Page 2 of 8	

www.maxlearning.net * English / Spelling Spoofs © 12/11/2012 * Page 2 of 8

transfering	transferring	Transfe <u>r</u> ring to her other hand.
vaccuum	vacuum	I own a Shop Va <u>c</u> . Y <u>uu</u> do 2.
waranty	warranty	The bloody war ran Ty into depression.

Silent Consonants		
Misspelled	Correct	BrainAid
abcess	abscess	I found abs in the cesspool!
aquire	acquire	
colesterol	cholesterol	cholesterol: See (c) holes in your arteries.
colum	column	
concious	conscious	
excercise	exercise	
ryme	rhyme	RH? Y me? ("RH negative" is a blood ailment)
rythm	rhythm	RH? Y th[e]m? ("RH negative" is a blood ailment)
sissors	scissors	Scissors cut!

Vowel Choices		
Misspelled	Correct	BrainAid
	repellant / ent	Either spelling is correct!
C <u>e</u> asar	Caesar	CAesar is from CAlifornia.
desp <u>a</u> rate	desperate	des / ate (/= per)
excell <u>a</u> nt	excellent	"E" is for excellent.
liason	liaison	
marr <u>a</u> ige	marriage	What is the legal marr"y"age? (Change y to i.)
perm <u>e</u> n <u>a</u> nt	permanent	She gave the lion's <i>mane</i> a per <u>mane</u> nt hairdo.
persist <u>a</u> nt	persistent	My persistent Sis pitched a tent.
pertin <u>a</u> nt	pertinent	The fork <i>tine</i> was per <u>tine</u> nt to the stab wound.
promin <u>a</u> nt	prominent	A prominent mine shaft.
sep <u>e</u> rate	separate	Separate has "a rat" in it.

I before E except after C?

Many were taught the above rule to help them spell words such as belief and receive. The problem is there are many exceptions to that rule, even if you include its corollary: "Or when sounded as 'a' as in *neighbor* and *weigh*."

Some Exceptions to the "Rule"		
ancient	either	omniscient
caffeine	fancier	proficient
conscience	foreign	science
counterfeit	forfeit	seize
deficient	height	sufficient
efficient	neither	weird

El Words		
Correct	BrainAid	
caffeine		
codeine	What's the <u>code</u> for <u>code</u> ine?	
counterfeit		
deceive	My cousin <u>Dece</u> lives on <u>Ive</u> St.	
either	E <u>ith</u> er w <u>ith</u> or w <u>ith</u> out.	
forfeit		
freight	The <u>freight</u> was <u>free</u> .	
height	He and I have height; H+8.	
kaleidoscope	Kale, I do scope.	
leisure		
neighbor	<u>Ne</u> ighbor lives <u>ne</u> ar you.	
neither	Ne <u>ither</u> it nor her.	
protein		
receive	My cousin <u>Rece</u> lives on <u>Ive</u> St.	
seize	See the whites of their "ize."	
sovereign		
weigh	Together we weigh a lot.	
weird	We were weird on Halloween.	

IE Words		
Correct	BrainAid	
achieve	Aim <u>high</u> to ac <u>hi</u> eve much.	
believe	Don't be <u>lie</u> ve a <u>lie</u> .	
brief	Br <u>ie</u> f moment in t <u>i</u> m <u>e</u>	
chief	A chief sits high on the totem pole.	
fancier	I fanc"i" h <u>er</u> .	
field	Don't fight with elders in your field.	
financier		
friend	Friend to the end.	
grief	She cr <u>ie</u> s with gr <u>ie</u> f.	
hygiene	Hygiene keeps your GI tract clean.	
medieval	Many <u>die</u> d in me <u>die</u> val times.	
mischievous		
niece	<u>Ni</u> ce <u>ni</u> ece.	
piece	A <u>pie</u> ce of <u>pie</u> .	
relieve	To get some re <u>lie</u> f, <u>lie</u> down.	
retrieve	Adam wanted to "retri" Eve in court.	
shield	The "shi" eld(er) hid behind a shield.	
siege		
thief	A thief high up on a ledge.	
view	\underline{V} , \underline{I} see \underline{ew} !	
yield	I yi <u>eld</u> to my <u>eld</u> ers.	

EU Words		
Correct	BrainAid	
amateur	The 1 st mate was an amateur.	
maneuver	Lion maneuvers his mane.	
neutral	Have you seen the "neu" tral?	
neutron	I bought a "neu" tron.	
pneumatic	Think "p" = pressure.	
pneumonia		
rheumatism	RH = medical term.	
Imagine neu = new		

UE Words		
Correct	BrainAid	
avenue		
cue		
due		
hue		
revenue		
Observ	Observe these words end with a silent "e."	

OR Words		
Correct	BrainAid	
actor		
calculator		
contractor		
creator		
editor		
instructor		
protestor	Shall we protest <u>or</u> strike?	
visitor	Shall we visit or leave?	
Often from base words ending in -ate, -ct, -it		

	AR Words
Correct	BrainAid
calendar	Eat "cale." Think $\underline{da}r = \underline{da}y$.
circular	
grammar	Gramma, "R" you sure?
popular	The <u>popu</u> lation is <u>large</u> .
regular	
similar	
solar	The sun is so large!
	Many "ar" words end in "lar."

ER Words		
Correct	BrainAid	
cleaner		
fighter		
player		
printer		
teacher		
writer		
"er" is much	more common than "or/ar" endings.	

RE Words	
Correct	BrainAid
acre	A <u>cre</u> ation of land owners.
cadre	Being a <u>cad</u> <u>re</u> sults in scorn.
genre	Gen reads from the spy novel genre.
macabre	
massacre	The massacre occurred over an acre.
mediocre	It was a lousy media creation.
ogre	Spare me O great monster!

Miscellaneous Words	
Correct	BrainAid
cemetery	I could see (<u>ce</u>) only one <u>meter</u> through the ce <u>metery</u> gloom.
curiosity	Curiosity killed the "u" in curious (as well as the cat!)
curious	Who bought the <i>curio</i> , <i>us</i> ? (a curio is a trinket or souvenir)
gauge (or gage)	I knew "u" pulled a gag on me.
persevere	To persevere means to try forever. (Common error: perservere)
privilege	"Pri" a vile leg up off the floor.
pronounce	Be sure to pro <u>noun</u> ce <u>noun</u> s correctly.
pronunciation	The Catholic <u>nun</u> strictly enforced proper pro <u>nun</u> ciation.
reconnaissance	Reconna is san Ce. (san means "without," so Reconna misses Ce)
Renaissance	Rena is san Ce. (san means "without," so Rena misses Ce)
shepherd	The sheep herder lost an "e." (sheepherd)
souvenir	
temperament	temper A ment
temperature	temper A ture
vice versa	The Italian's vice made him "reversa" his alibi.

Circle the letter of the correctly spelled word.

1) a. occured b. ocurred c. occurred

2) a. acommodate b. accommodate c. accomodate

3) a. tommorrow b. tommorow c. tomorrow

4) a. rythym b. rythm c. rhythm

5) a. separate b. separate c. separate

6) a. desperate b. desparate c. desporate

7) a. recieve b. resceive c. receive

8) a. believe b. beleive c. balieve

9) a. nuetral b. neutral c. newtral

10) a. pneumonia b. pnuemonia c. pnumonia

11) a. perservere b. persevere c. pursevere

12) a. parallel b. paralell c. parrallel

13) a. priviledge b. privelege c. privilege

14) a. cemetary b. cemetery c. cematery

15) a. gauge b. guage c. gage

Fill in the blanks with EI / IE or AR / OR / ER / RE.

16) dec ve 19) visit

17) hyg____ne 20) calend____

18) n___ce 21) og___

Answers: 1c, 2b, 3c, 4c, 5a, 6a, 7c, 8a, 9b, 10a, 11b, 12a, 13c, 14b, 15a/c, 16ei, 17ie, 18ie, 19or, 20ar, 21re