

QuillSpell

Puzzle Sampler

Master 30 of the most commonly misspelled words for grades 4-5, including tricky double letters and silent letters.

6 puzzles from "Common Misspellings I" — try them with a pencil.

1

Which spelling of 'because' is correct?

- A becuse
- B because
- C becaus
- D becauze

Hint: This word has the small word 'cause' inside it.

2

Maya wrote 'Wensday' on her calendar. What is the correct spelling of this day of the week?

- A Wednesday
- B Wendsday
- C Wedensday
- D Wensday

Hint: This word has a silent 'd' that many people forget.

3

Choose the correctly spelled word to complete: 'Carlos had an _____ idea for the science fair.'

- (A) exellent
- (B) excellant
- (C) excellent
- (D) excelent

Hint: The word has double 'l' in the middle.

4

Fill in the blank with the correctly spelled word: 'The explorers needed special _____ for the hike.'

- (A) equipment
- (B) equiptment
- (C) equpment
- (D) equipmant

Hint: The word 'equip' is the base, then add '-ment.'

5

Look at these four spellings. Two students and two teachers each wrote the word differently. Which group got it right?

- Ⓐ rithm
- Ⓑ rhythem
- Ⓒ rhythm
- Ⓓ rythm

Hint: This word has no standard vowels (a, e, i, o, u) in its main part.

6

Why is the word 'February' commonly misspelled as 'Febuary'?

- Ⓐ The 'r' is silent and does not need to be written
- Ⓑ The 'r' was added by mistake in modern English
- Ⓒ The word was originally spelled without the 'r'
- Ⓓ People often skip the first 'r' because it is hard to pronounce

Hint: Say the word slowly: Feb-ru-a-ry. Do you hear all the sounds?

1. **B — because**

The correct spelling is 'because.' It contains the word 'cause' with the prefix 'be-.' 'Becuse' drops the 'a,' 'becaus' drops the 'e,' and 'becauze' swaps 's' for 'z.'

2. **A — Wednesday**

The correct spelling is 'Wednesday' with a silent 'd.' The word comes from 'Woden's day' in Old English. 'Wendsday' moves the 'd,' 'Wedensday' adds an extra syllable, and 'Wensday' drops the 'd' entirely.

3. **C — excellent**

The correct spelling is 'excellent' with double 'l' and '-ent' ending. 'Excelent' drops one 'l,' 'excellant' swaps 'e' for 'a,' and 'exellent' drops the 'c.'

4. **A — equipment**

'Equipment' is formed from 'equip' + '-ment.' 'Equipmant' changes '-ment' to '-mant,' 'equiptment' adds an extra 't,' and 'equipment' drops the 'i.'

5. **C — rhythm**

'Rhythm' has no traditional vowels — 'y' serves as the vowel. 'Rythm' moves the 'h,' 'rhythem' adds an unnecessary 'e,' and 'rithm' replaces 'y' with 'i' and drops an 'h.'

6. **D — People often skip the first 'r' because it is hard to pronounce**

People often skip the first 'r' in 'February' because saying 'Feb-roo-' is harder than 'Feb-yoo-.' The 'r' is original (from Latin 'Februarius') and has always been part of the correct spelling.