

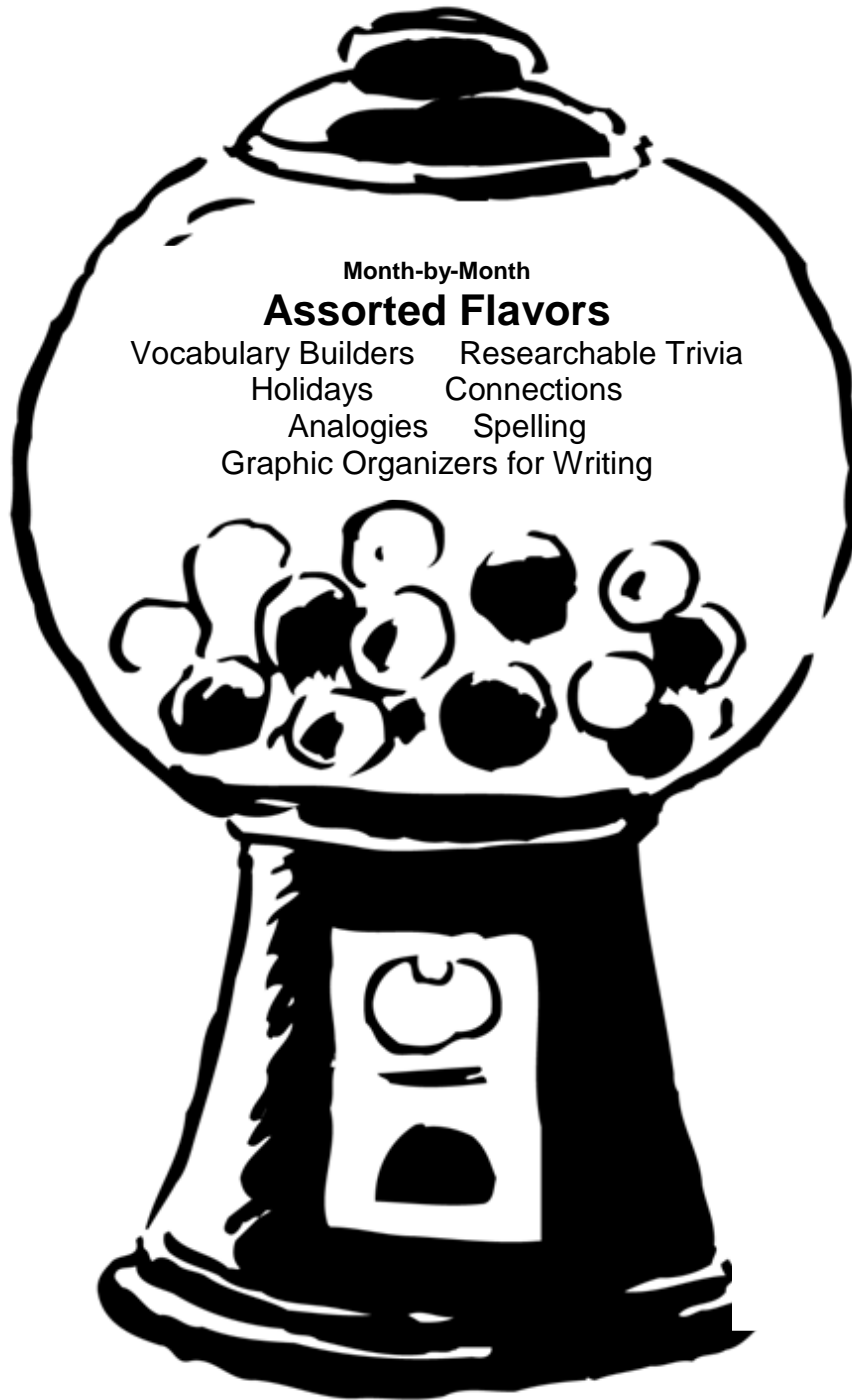


***Brain Candy***  
***for***  
***Young Scholars***

***Sample Pages***

***Seasonal Vocabulary Builders, Researchable Trivia,  
and Graphic Organizers for Writing***

**The Word Works Series**  
by Margaret Whisnant



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***Brain Candy for Young Scholars***  
***from the Word Works Series***

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# Sense of Humor Test

(Part One)

Test your sense of humor by spotting the correct missing words and phrases from each of the following actual quotes from real people. Some of them were trying to be funny. Others were not.

Do some research to verify your choices. Write the letters of the answers in the blanks to the left.



## Yogi-isms from Yogi Berra

Elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1972.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. *Always go to other people's funerals, otherwise* (A) they'll think you don't like them, (B) you will get a bad reputation, (C) they won't go to yours.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. *You got to be very careful if you don't know where you're going, because* (A) you might not get there, (B) you might go somewhere else, (C) you won't know it when you get there.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. *When you come to a fork in the road,* (A) have lunch, (B) go back to where you started, (C) take it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. *It ain't over* (A) 'til it's over, (B) until the end, (C) until the game ends.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. *No one goes there anymore because* (A) nobody's there, (B) it's too crowded, (C) it's not in the same place.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. *You can observe a lot by* (A) watching, (B) traveling, (C) listening.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. *Baseball is 90% mental. The* (A) rest belongs to the players, (B) other half is physical, (C) rest is practice.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. *Why buy good luggage? You* (A) can't take a lot with you, (B) only use it to hide your clothes, (C) only use it when you travel.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. *I'm not going to buy my kids an encyclopedia. Let them* (A) learn from real books, (B) walk to school like I did, (C) learn at school.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. When asked how he liked school, Yogi Berra answered (A) *Closed.* (B) *It was OK after I graduated.* (C) *I liked it better than it liked me.*

## Politicians Speak

- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. *I love California. I practically* (A) grew up in Phoenix, (B) live there part of the time, (C) think it should be the biggest state. (*Vice-President Dan Quayle*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. *I have made good judgments in the past. I have made good* (A) mistakes, too, (B) judgments today, (C) judgments in the future. (*Vice-President Al Gore*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. *The Internet is a gateway to* (A) the world of computers, (B) get on the net, (C) a different kind of space. (*Senator Bob Dole*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. *I have opinions of my own—strong opinions—but I* (A) don't always agree with them, (B) have a hard time expressing them, (C) don't always know what they are. (*President George Bush*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. *Quite frankly, teachers are the only profession that* (A) teach our children, (B) doesn't get elected, (C) might succeed successfully. (*Vice-President Dan Quayle*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. *When the President does it, that means that* (A) it's something supported by his party, (B) it's not illegal, (C) somebody will find it interesting. (*President Richard Nixon*)

## Sense of Humor Test—continued

- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. *The President has kept all the promises* (A) he made, (B) he could, (C) he intended to keep. (*President Bill Clinton's presidential aide George Stephanopolous*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. *What a waste it is to lose one's mind.* Or (A) not to have a mind is being very wasteful. How true that is. (B) not educating your mind is wasteful. (C) never failing to use a mind is wasteful. (*Vice-President Dan Quayle*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. *Rarely is the question asked: Is* (A) our children learning? (B) education educating our children? (C) education worth learning? (*President George W. Bush*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. *In America any boy may become President and I suppose* (A) girls should, too, (B) it's just one of the risks he takes, (C) he ought to be. (*Adlai Stevenson*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. *It's clearly a budget.* It's (A) got a lot of numbers in it, (B) a lot more pages than is necessary, (C) all about money. (*President George W. Bush*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 22. *I have often wanted to drown my troubles, but* (A) I don't live near the ocean, (B) I am a good swimmer, (C) I can't get my wife to go swimming. (*President Jimmy Carter*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. *I have orders to be awakened at any time in the case of a national emergency, even if* (A) I'm in a cabinet meeting, (B) it is the middle of the day, (C) I'm not asleep. (*President Ronald Reagan*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 24. *It's no exaggeration to say that the undecideds could* (A) win this election, (B) go one way or another, (C) forget to vote. (*George Bush*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 25. *I don't make jokes.* I just (A) watch the government and report the facts, (B) talk about normal people, (C) have many friends in Washington. (*American Humorist Will Rogers*)

**Funny on Purpose**

Quotes from Comedians—Past and Present

- \_\_\_\_\_ 26. *I never forget a face, but* (A) I wish I could forget yours, (B) in your case, I'll be glad to make an exception, (C) yours is forgettable. (*Groucho Marx 1895-1977*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 27. *If you live to be one hundred, you've got it made.* Very few people (A) try to give you advice, (B) need money after 90, (C) die past that age. (*George Burns 1896-1996*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 28. *Swimming is not a sport.* Swimming is (A) a way to keep from drowning, (B) a game with water, (C) just another way to take a bath. (*George Carlin*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 29. *By the time you're eighty years old, you've learned everything.* You only have to (A) use it, (B) remember it, (C) figure out what to do with it. (*George Burns 1898-1998*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 30. *If your parents never had children, chances are* (A) you're an only child, (B) you won't either, (C) they didn't want any. (*Talk Show Host Dick Cavett*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 31. *The pen is mightier than the sword, and* (A) considerably easier to write with, (B) easier to carry around, (C) it never needs sharpening. (*Marty Feldman 1933-1982*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 32. *If it weren't for electricity, we'd all be* (A) sleeping without night lights, (B) watching television by candlelight, (C) driving at night with flashlights. (*50s T.V. Personality George Gobel 1919-1991*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 33. *The best cure for insomnia is to* (A) plan to stay awake, (B) never fall off the couch, (C) get a lot of sleep. (*W. C. Fields 1880-1946*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 34. *I've never been jealous.* Not even when my dad (A) finished fifth grade a year before I did, (B) drove the best truck, (C) owned a two-pump gas station. (*Jeff Foxworthy*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 35. *Why do they call it rush hour when* (A) nobody is in a hurry, (B) nothing moves, (C) it takes a whole morning? (*Robin Williams*)



# A Holiday Special for Young Gourmets

It's during the winter holidays, especially Thanksgiving, when every adult who loves to cook prepares his or her "special dish" for family and social gatherings. OK, so that takes care of the adults, but how about the young diners? Shouldn't they have their own holiday specialties? A dish *for them, by them*?

Here's your chance to fill a need by creating a holiday dish **specifically for people your age**. Your recipe could be a *creative combining* of every-day prepared items from the grocery shelf, a *mixing* of standard items or ingredients with no cooking necessary, a *tweaking* of a familiar recipe that requires some cooking skills, or a *totally new concept*.

Organize your idea below. Give your dish an *ear-pleasing, appetite-whetting* name. Write your recipe on a sheet of unlined paper for display. Include a color illustration or an actual sample of the final product.

**Name of dish . . .**

**Type of dish**—*appetizer, side item, main dish, dessert, beverage . . .*

**Ingredients:** *amount, type, specific brand, etc. . .*

**Preparation:** *Stacking, mixing, slicing, blending, microwaving, browning, steaming, boiling, burning, etc. . .*

**Presentation and Eating Instructions:** *In a bowl, on a platter, in a paper cup, in a sneaker, spoon, fingers, straws, etc. . .*

# Words of Love

All the questions below are connected to the emotion of **love**. Use a dictionary, other reference books, and the internet to find the correct answers and then write them in the blanks to the left.



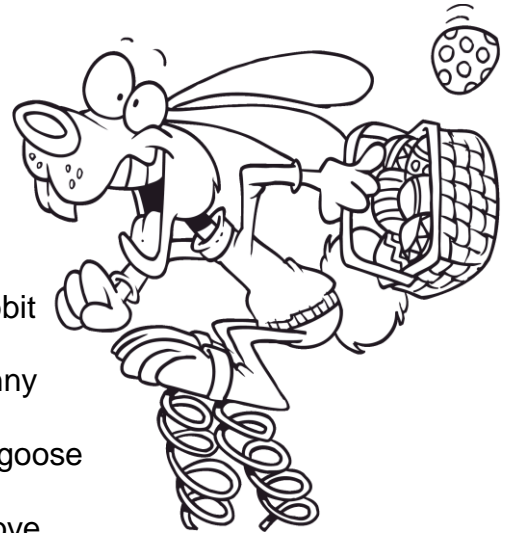
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Who was Juliet's boyfriend?  
**Casanova    Romeo    John Smith**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Which of the following terms describes a *show of excessive admiration that is sometimes only pretended*?  
**allegiance    adulation    fidelity**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The avian term that is a *synonym* for *sweetheart* is  
**sugar pie    turtledove    dear.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. When two girls like the same boy, or two boys are enamored with the same girl, they are said to be involved in a **love**  
**competition    circle    triangle.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Which of the following words is the correct spelling for *the man to whom a woman is engaged*? **fiancé    fiancée    fiancae**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Which of the three words is the correct spelling for *the woman to whom a man is engaged*? **fiancé    fiancée    fiancae**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. An unreasonable, all-absorbing attraction that might cause one to behave *foolishly* is called **inclination    insolence    infatuation.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. In the mythology of ancient Rome, Cupid was the god of love. Who was the little winged fellow's mother? **Neptune    Venus    Mars**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. The term for the love that a person feels for his or her country is  
**citizenship    Americanism    patriotism.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Which of the following states does **not** have a city named **Romance**?  
**California    Arkansas    West Virginia**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. The French word for *sweetheart* is **chérie    épouse    petit fleur.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Which of the following words is **not** a *synonym* for **boyfriend**?  
**beau    suitor    suite**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. The rapid learning process in which a new born or very young animal forms patterns of lasting recognition and attraction to another animal or a substitute, such as a human or an object, is known as  
**bonding    imprinting    socializing.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. The word that describes the type of love shared between friends, especially those of the opposite sex, is  
**romantic    platonic    semantic**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Which of the following is known as *the language of love*?  
**English    Spanish    French**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. A man and a woman each paying for his or her own meal or entertainment on a date is called  
**playing evens    going Dutch    a French connection**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. Which U.S. city is known as *The Marriage Capital of the World*?  
**Las Vegas    Niagara Falls    Reno**

# April Connections

*April Fool's Day, Easter, Arbor Day, Masters Golf Tournament, Earth Day, Boston Marathon*  
 Birthstone: **Diamond** Flower: **Daisy**

Identify **ONE WORD** that can be connected to all three items in the lists below so that each one forms a familiar **word** or **phrase**. The mystery words, all connected to one of the April events or designations listed above, can be placed **before** or **after** the clues. Write your answers in the blanks to the left.

Example: \_\_\_\_\_ flower \_\_\_\_\_ bed wild sun  
 (flowerbed wildflower sunflower)



- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. shine day rise
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Bugs hop rabbit
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. basket egg bunny
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. head scrambled goose
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. showers fool love
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. cane cotton apple
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. ball bread waste
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. sleigh door church
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. rack top cowboy
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. code evening rehearsal
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. law case snow
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. bell car hip
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. card dirty or treat
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. book business bone
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. house top cherry
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. bean fish doughnut
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. curtain bridal meteor
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. ranger Yosemite National amusement
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. quake worm Planet

# My Kind of Summer

When summer finally rolls around, where do you like to **go**? Who and what do you most want to **see**? How do you have **fun** in the **sun**? Do you have time to take a **nap**, or do you engage in all-day action? What do you like to have on your plate or in your hand when it comes time to **eat**?

Organize your thoughts on the form below and then write about **My Kind of Summer**.

My favorite summer place(s) to **go** is(are) \_\_\_\_\_

Here's why. . .



Wonderful people and great things to **see** are \_\_\_\_\_

They are at the top of my list because. . .



Here's my idea of **fun** in the **sun**. . .



**Nap** or no **nap**? \_\_\_\_\_

The best ever summer things to **eat** are \_\_\_\_\_

My conclusion(s) about summer. . .

