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O, I C!



Use letters (or a single letter) from the alphabet to phonetically form the answers to the following questions. Letters may **not** be used to **spell** a word. Only the spoken **sound** of a letter is allowed.

Example: These letters are what a person might say when he/she understands something for the first time. (Answer: O, I C)

- _____ 1. These two letters mean *to rot*.
- _____ 2. These two letters are a companion to *jealousy*.
- _____ 3. This letter is the name of a large body of water.
- _____ 4. This letter asks "For what purpose?"
- _____ 5. These two letters describe the condition of having or doing too much.
- _____ 6. A nickname for *Arthur* or *Artemus* can be formed with these two letters.
- _____ 7. These two letters name the type of doll given as a prize at a carnival.
- _____ 8. These letters describe a day experiencing frozen precipitation.
- _____ 9. These two letters are a reaction to a bad smell.
- _____ 10. This letter names a popular beverage served both hot and cold.
- _____ 11. What two letters mean the opposite of *full*?
- _____ 12. These two letters are the opposite of *difficult*.

Connections

Set 2

Add **ONE WORD** to each of the three items in the lists below to form a familiar word or phrase. The mystery word can be placed **before** or **after** the clues. Write the word that makes the connection in the blank to the left.



Example:

_____ dog _____ house top hot

- | | | | |
|-----------|-------|--------|--------|
| _____ 1. | clean | blow | ice |
| _____ 2. | net | silver | hook |
| _____ 3. | out | side | yard |
| _____ 4. | evil | brow | liner |
| _____ 5. | paper | friend | choir |
| _____ 6. | ever | house | horn |
| _____ 7. | box | man | quick |
| _____ 8. | snow | mail | police |
| _____ 9. | black | blue | straw |
| _____ 10. | sand | turtle | lunch |
| _____ 11. | wind | snow | fire |
| _____ 12. | some | any | no |

Words to Color

Set 3

Fill in the blank in each item below with the name of a color. Some research might be needed.

Example:

seeing _____ red _____

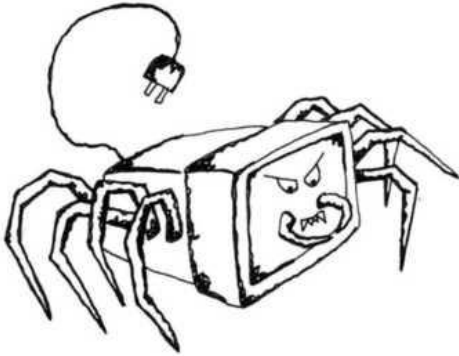


- _____ bunting (*bird*)
- _____ Skelton (*comedian*)
- Barney the _____ dinosaur
- the _____ Hills of South Dakota
- the _____ Ridge Mountains
- Clifford the big _____ dog
- _____ Monday
- wave a _____ flag (*surrender*)
- Where the _____ Fern Grows
(*book*)
- Beyond the _____ Horizon (*song*)
- _____ -headed woodpecker
- every cloud has a _____ lining
- _____ ribbon (*first place*)
- John _____'s Body (*book, song*)
- feeling in the _____ (*healthy*)
- _____ Threads and _____
Needles (*song*)
- agent _____ (*poison*)
- _____ star (*reward*)
- get a _____ slip (*You're fired!*)
- _____ China
- "for _____ mountains majesty"
- tell a little _____ lie
- Dorothy's _____ slippers
- _____ mail
- _____ neck
- _____ sage (*flowering plant*)
- Tie a _____ Ribbon 'round the
Old Oak Tree (*song*)

Categories

Set 1

Four items in each of the following groups are related in some way. They all fit into a particular **category**. One of the items is different from the other four. Circle the item that does not belong. In the blank write the **specific category** that connects the other four.



Example:

Hewlett-Packard

Scorpio

Dell

Compaq

Apple

computer brand names

1. fish
seagull
coral
whale
lobster

2. lumber
bricks
steel
gold
nails

3. Washington
New Hampshire
Chicago
Georgia
Michigan

4. house
boat
igloo
trailer
wheelbarrow

5. clarinet
saxophone
flute
violin
oboe

6. coffee
cocoa
milkshake
tea
apple cider

7. apple
orange
banana
strawberry
tangerine

8. baseball
football
soccer
ice hockey
volleyball

9. swimming
golf
baseball
skiing
ice skating

10. cat
dog
rabbit
cow
gerbil

11. box
kettle
bongo
snare
base

12. violin
flute
guitar
banjo
harp

Velcro Words

Set 1

One of the many creative things we have done with our language is to stick certain words together so that they are generally thought of in pairs—*salt* and *pepper*, for example. Furthermore, there is an unwritten rule that one word always comes first. It is acceptable to experience *ups* and *downs*, but *downs* and *ups* are not allowed.

Here's a chance to see how many Velcro Words have found their way into your vocabulary. Fill in the blank in each item with the missing word. Some can have more than one answer.

Example:



Example: *hunt and peck*

1. peaches and _____
2. thunder and _____
3. _____ and needles
4. bacon and _____
5. _____ and stones
6. sick and _____
7. mind your *p*'s and _____
8. raining _____ and dogs
9. aunt and _____
10. song and _____
11. _____ and loss
12. shoes and _____
13. _____ and effect
14. sweet and _____ sauce
15. _____ and fries
16. come and _____

17. _____ and cons
18. _____ and soul
19. hope and _____
20. forgive and _____
21. now and _____
22. _____ and marriage
23. brother and _____
24. _____ and *don'ts*
25. peanut butter and _____

Verbal Hors d'oeuvres

Set 1

The idiomatic expressions ingrained in our language enable us to communicate with a liveliness that would be impossible without them. Our love of verbal games adds color, sound, action, and run-away visuals to our everyday speech. We have managed to mix **food** into our vocabulary, making it **tasty** as well.

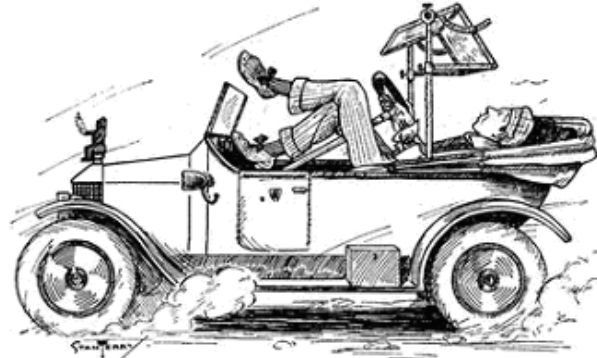
Each of the following sentences requires the addition of the name of a **food**. Write the correct missing morsel in the blank.

Warning: This activity could whet your appetite and cause you to read a whole novel.

Example:

My brother is a shameless _____ behind the wheel. He should be banned from driving forever.

Answer: hot dog



- _____ 1. I bragged that my favorite team would win the tournament. Now I have to eat humble _____.
- _____ 2. The science test was a piece of _____. I knew every question.
- _____ 3. Dad drove the SUV over my bicycle and smashed it as flat as a _____.
- _____ 4. Ms. Kirby packed us on the bus like _____ and then took us on a wonderful bug-hunting expedition in the park.
- _____ 5. Grandpa tells one _____ joke after another, but he always makes me laugh.
- _____ 6. My parents call each other “_____.” If the bees knew, would they approve?
- _____ 7. Last one in the pool is a rotten _____!
- _____ 8. Instead of giving a normal oral report like everybody else, Jamal decided to _____ it up. He was a hit.
- _____ 9. My whole family was in a _____ over the lost keys until I spotted them hanging in the car’s ignition.
- _____ 10. Outmaneuvering my sister in a game of chess is like taking _____ from a baby.
- _____ 11. If you want to drive Mr. Roland _____, go to his desk and say “*I don’t have no pencil. Can I borrow one?*”
- _____ 12. An afternoon without homework is just my cup of _____.
- _____ 13. Calvin’s new joke laid an _____, but I’m sure he’ll have another one by tomorrow.