

## Words Often Confused

## Read and Say

## Basic

1. *desert*
2. *dessert*
3. *access*
4. *excess*
5. *continual*
6. *continuous*
7. *hardy*
8. *hearty*
9. *reality*
10. *realty*
11. *bizarre*
12. *bazaar*
13. *formally*
14. *formerly*
15. *hurdle*
16. *hurtle*
17. *prescribe*
18. *proscribe*
19. *conscious*
20. *conscience*

**READ** the sentences. **SAY** each bold word.

Few plants can grow in this sandy **desert**.  
 We had fruit for **dessert** after the big meal.  
 Can we gain **access** through the park gate?  
 The wet dog shook off the **excess** water.  
 Her dog's **continual** barking kept me awake.  
 The **continuous** hum of the fan is relaxing.  
 These **hardy** plants can weather a cold winter.  
 A **hearty** meal will give us new energy.  
 Can anyone believe a dream is **reality**?  
 The newspaper has a list of **realty** for sale.  
 I was startled by his **bizarre** costume.  
 One booth at the **bazaar** sells candy apples.  
 Guests behave **formally** at a state dinner.  
 We **formerly** grew corn in that empty field.  
 The horse easily jumped the high **hurdle**.  
 We turned to see the express train **hurtle** by.  
 What pills did the doctor **prescribe**?  
 Schools have rules that **proscribe** cheating.  
 I was **conscious** of someone staring at me.  
 Does your **conscience** bother you when you lie?



**Spelling Strategy** To avoid confusing words with similar spellings and pronunciations, think of the meanings of the word.

**Think and Write** Write the pairs of Basic Words.

**Review**  
 21. accept  
 22. except  
 23. advise  
 24. advice

**Challenge**  
 25. climatic  
 26. climactic  
 27. ellipse  
 28. eclipse

## Independent Practice

**Vocabulary: Synonyms in Context** Write the Basic Word that is a synonym for the underlined word. Use your Spelling Dictionary.

1. a deliberate effort
2. to separate fantasy from actuality
3. previously at this address
4. a nourishing breakfast
5. to be officially introduced
6. the uninterrupted supply of blood to the body
7. a strange coincidence
8. strong pioneers
9. to gain entrance to the building
10. the repeated hammering of machinery
11. to prohibit use of the dangerous chemical
12. to speed down the ski slope
13. a surplus of vegetables



**Vocabulary: Definitions** Write the Basic Word that matches each definition. Use your Spelling Dictionary.

14. to order or recommend the use of something
15. an obstacle or problem that must be overcome
16. the final course of a meal
17. land and the property on it
18. an inner sense that helps a person distinguish between right and wrong
19. a marketplace or fair
20. a dry region, often covered with sand, having little or no vegetation

**Challenge Words** Write the Challenge Word that fits each clue. Use your Spelling Dictionary.

21. This type of condition is determined by rain, snow, heat, cold, and wind.
22. This event could make a bright, sunny day temporarily dim.
23. The most suspenseful part of a mystery or thriller could be described as this.
24. A tabletop or a platter can have this shape.

## Synonyms in Context

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_

## Definitions

14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_
20. \_\_\_\_\_

## Challenge Words

21. \_\_\_\_\_
22. \_\_\_\_\_
23. \_\_\_\_\_
24. \_\_\_\_\_

## Dictionary

**Homographs** **Homographs** are words that have the same spelling but different meanings. In the dictionary, homographs are listed as separate entry words, rather than separate definitions, because they have different origins. Some homographs have different pronunciations, as well.

**des·ert**<sup>1</sup> |dĕz' ert| *n.* A dry, barren region often covered with sand.

**des·ert**<sup>2</sup> |dĭ zŭrt'| *v.* To forsake or leave; to abandon.

**des·ert**<sup>3</sup> |dĭ zŭrt'| *n.* Often **deserts**. Something that is deserved, especially punishment: *He received his just deserts.*

### Letter Math

5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_
20. \_\_\_\_\_
21. \_\_\_\_\_
22. \_\_\_\_\_

**Practice** Write 1, 2, or 3 to show which of the above homographs is used in each sentence.

1. The criminal got his just *deserts* for the crime he committed.
2. Years of drought had turned the grasslands into *desert*.
3. Though she was afraid, Eve did not *desert* her friend.
4. At night, small animals roam the *desert* in search of food.

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 3. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 4. _____ |

## Review: Spelling Spree

**Letter Math** Add and subtract letters from the words below to make Basic or Review Words. Write the new words.

**Example:** ac + forces – for + s = access

- |                                |                                   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5. bi + czar – c + re =        | 14. rex – r + creep – re + t =    |
| 6. sharp – s – p + dy =        | 15. con + scientist – tist + ce = |
| 7. d + press – pr + ert =      | 16. pre + scroll – oll + ibe =    |
| 8. h + squirt – sq – i + le =  | 17. con + ti + strenuous – stre = |
| 9. fo + thermal – the + ly =   | 18. blaze – l – e + afar – f =    |
| 10. red – d + alter – er + y = | 19. reap – p + little – tle + y = |
| 11. he + start – st + y =      | 20. ac + reception – re – ion =   |
| 12. continent – ent + ual =    | 21. con + s + precious – pre =    |
| 13. h + fur – f + dale – a =   | 22. prom – m + scribble – bl =    |

## Proofreading and Writing

**Proofread for Spelling** Use proofreading marks to correct six misspelled Basic or Review Words in this paragraph.

*continuous*  
Example: The ~~continous~~ heat wave killed many plants.

Few plants can live in a dessert.

Those that do are very hardy.

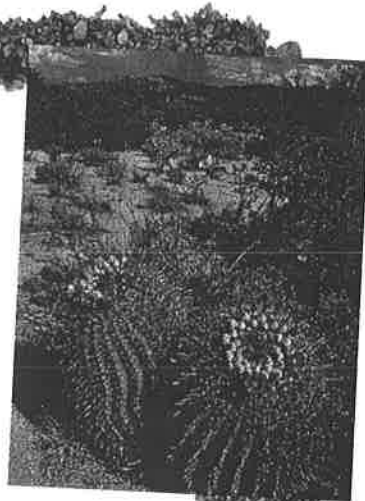
To get through periods of little rain, some grow long roots to gain access to water

underground. Others store

excess water, using it up a bit at a time. Many of the world's driest areas are expanding.

Poor farming methods, too much grazing of livestock, and the cutting of trees dry up the land. To stop this trend and reclaim formally fertile lands, scientists advise planting trees.

Other advise includes improving farming methods and limiting livestock in these areas.



### Basic

1. desert
2. dessert
3. access
4. excess
5. continual
6. continuous
7. hardy
8. hearty
9. reality
10. realty
11. bizarre
12. bazaar
13. formally
14. formerly
15. hurdle
16. hurtle
17. prescribe
18. proscribe
19. conscious
20. conscience

### Review

21. accept
22. except
23. advise
24. advice

### Challenge

25. climatic
26. climactic
27. ellipse
28. eclipse

**Write an Essay** Would you like to live in a desert? Why or why not? Write a short essay presenting your personal views about what desert life would be like. Try to use five spelling words.

### Proofreading Marks

- ¶ Indent
- ^ Add
- ^ Add a comma
- “ ” Add quotation marks
- ⊙ Add a period
- Delete
- ≡ Capital letter
- / Small letter
- ~ Reverse order

# Vocabulary Enrichment

Unit 11  
BONUS

## Expanding Vocabulary

### Spelling Word Link

**bizarre**

**Antonyms** What is the relationship between the underlined words in the sentence below?

While a camel would be a bizarre sight on a city street, it is an ordinary one in some desert regions.

*Bizarre* and *ordinary* are **antonyms**, or words with opposite meanings.

Write an antonym from the list below for each numbered word that follows. Use your Spelling Dictionary.

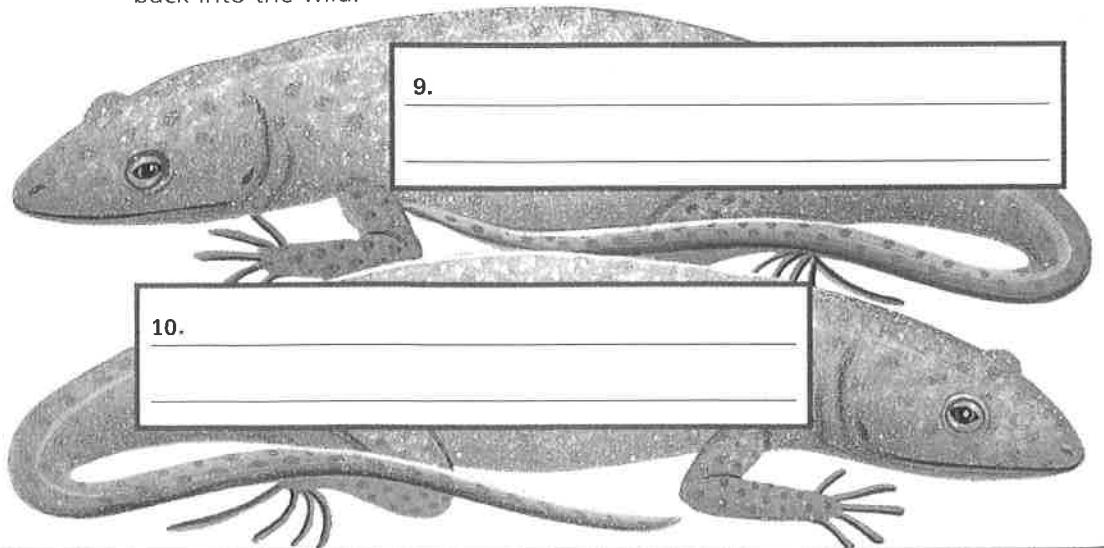
excess                      formally                      reality                      conscious  
continuous                      accept                      hardy                      except

- |              |                |                |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. weak      | 4. interrupted | 7. shortage    |
| 2. including | 5. fantasy     | 8. unconscious |
| 3. casually  | 6. reject      |                |

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ |

Now choose two pairs of antonyms from items 1–8. Write two sentences, using a different antonym pair in each sentence.

**Example:** After we capture and treat the injured lizard, we will release it back into the wild.



# Vocabulary Enrichment

Unit 11  
BONUS

## Real-World Connection

**Social Studies: Deserts** All the words in the box relate to deserts. Look up these words in your Spelling Dictionary. Then write the words to complete this paragraph.

Born in the (1) climate of the Sahara, the (2) was used to the dry air and the parched, (3) landscape. He herded his animals toward a massive (4) formation, whose steep walls might offer some shade. A steady wind whipped the sand around him, slowly continuing the (5) that had carved out the land form. Peering into the distance, he spied a (6), its hump slung with bundles. It must be a (7), he thought, since such illusions were common in the desert. Many pack animals soon became visible, however, and he realized that a merchant's (8) was moving toward him.

### Spelling Word Link

desert

arid  
barren  
erosion  
sandstone  
caravan  
nomad  
dromedary  
mirage

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

## TRY THIS!

**Yes or No?** Write *yes* or *no* to answer each question.

9. Could the shape of a mountain be changed by erosion?
10. Could a person climb a mirage?
11. Could a nomad be a farmer?
12. Could a forest be barren?

### Fact File

The Sahara is the world's largest desert, covering an area of northern Africa almost as large as the United States. In much of the Sahara, the average rainfall is less than one inch per year. The Sahara supports less plant and animal life than any other desert.

