



11+ English: Vocabulary and Spelling

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Write the word asked for. Spelling must be correct to score the mark. Use English spelling (for example colour, not color).

Suggested time: 20 minutes · **Questions:** 22

1. Give a synonym of ancient. [1]
2. Give an antonym of scarce. [1]
3. What does hesitant mean in: She gave a hesitant smile? [1]
4. Choose the correct spelling: recieve / receive / receive [1]
5. Choose the correct spelling: definately / definitely / definitely [1]
6. Write the plural of library. [1]
7. Write the plural of torch. [1]
8. Add a prefix to lock to mean unlock in advance, or open again. Give two different words. [1]
9. What does the suffix -less do in the word useless? [1]
10. Which word is closest in meaning to restore? damage repair ignore hide [1]
11. Which word does not belong? stroll march wander saunter remain [1]
12. Complete the word: The fisherman used a pair of binocul___ to watch the harbour mouth. [1]
13. Correct the spelling mistake: The assembly was neccessary. [1]
14. Correct the spelling mistake: She wrote a seperate list. [1]
15. Give two homophones of the word wait (words that sound the same but are spelled differently). [1]
16. What does fragile mean? [1]
17. Use the word current correctly in a sentence about water, not about time. [1]

18. Which prefix means against? pre- anti- sub- over- [1]
19. Spell the missing word: They waited in the q_____ for the ferry. [1]
20. Give a more precise verb than went for walking slowly because you are tired. [1]
21. What is the root word in unhelpful? [1]
22. Choose the correctly spelled word: accomodation / accommodation / accomodation [1]

Answers and short explanations

Check your work only after you have finished. Equivalent wording is accepted where the meaning is the same.

1. **Answer:** old / aged / antique / historic (any sensible)
Why: Ancient means very old.
2. **Answer:** plentiful / abundant / common
Why: Scarce means in short supply, so the opposite is plentiful.
3. **Answer:** Uncertain / pausing / not confident
Why: Hesitant suggests delay or lack of confidence.
4. **Answer:** receive
Why: i before e except after c: receive.
5. **Answer:** definitely
Why: The word contains finite: definitely.
6. **Answer:** libraries
Why: y after a consonant becomes ies.
7. **Answer:** torches
Why: Words ending in ch usually add es.
8. **Answer:** unlock and relock (accept unlock / relock / lock's unlock sense)
Why: un- reverses; re- means again. Accept unlock and relock.
9. **Answer:** It means without (without use).
Why: -less means without.
10. **Answer:** repair
Why: Restore means bring back to a former condition.
11. **Answer:** remain
Why: The others are ways of walking; remain means stay.
12. **Answer:** binoculars
Why: binoculars — spelling of the whole word.
13. **Answer:** necessary
Why: One c, two s: necessary.
14. **Answer:** separate
Why: There is a rat in separate.
15. **Answer:** weight (accept wate only if marked wrong — weight is the standard homophone)
Why: Wait and weight. (If the pupil gives weight, that is the expected pair.)
16. **Answer:** Easily broken or damaged
Why: Fragile means delicate / breakable.
17. **Answer:** Any sentence where current means flow of water, e.g. The current pulled the dinghy sideways.
Why: Here current is a noun meaning a flow of water, not "happening now".
18. **Answer:** anti-
Why: Anti- means against, as in antifreeze, antibiotic.
19. **Answer:** queue
Why: queue — unusual spelling with ueue.

20. Answer: trudged / plodded / shuffled (any precise verb)

Why: A precise verb shows manner: trudged suggests tired effort.

21. Answer: help

Why: Prefix un-, root help, suffix -ful.

22. Answer: accommodation

Why: Two c's and two m's: accommodation.

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