

Practice tests

Questions 1–12

Tip

Answer the questions one page at a time. For each question ask yourself: 'Does this question test a spelling rule? If so, which one?' Check the answers in the back of the book before moving on to the next page.

1 When I saw Kim, she was _____ her bicycle.

- (A) ridding
- (B) rideing
- (C) riding

2 When the rain started, everyone _____ inside.

- (A) hurried
- (B) huried
- (C) hurried

3 My uncle tells the _____ jokes.

- (A) funniest
- (B) funnyest
- (C) funiest

4 Dean _____ the cricketers.

- (A) clapped
- (B) claped
- (C) clapeed

5 The _____ were grazing in the field beside the road.

- (A) donkies
- (B) donkey's
- (C) donkeys

6 _____ Grace nor her friend Rochelle was able to come.

- (A) neether
- (B) niether
- (C) neither

7 When the lesson ended, Mr Mackenzie _____ his class.

- (A) dissmissed
- (B) dismmisssed
- (C) dismissed

8 My aunt told me her watch was extremely _____.

- (A) valueable
- (B) valuable
- (C) valuble

9 The police officer spoke to the woman _____ car had been stolen.

- (A) who's
- (B) whom
- (C) whose

10 Antigua became _____ on November 1st 1981.

- (A) independant
- (B) inderpendent
- (C) independent

11 Grandma settled _____ in front of the television.

- (A) comfortabley
- (B) comfortablly
- (C) comfortably

12 Dwayne's teacher told him his work was not _____.

- (A) satisfactory
- (B) satissfactory
- (C) satasfactory

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Questions 13–24

Tip

Did you spot the spelling rules tested on the previous page? Identify the spelling rules tested in these questions and work out why some of the options are wrong.

- 13 Everyone will have the _____ to take part in the show.
- (A) oportunity
(B) oppertunity
(C) opportunity
- 14 Mom chopped some _____ to make a salad.
- (A) tomatoes
(B) tomatos
(C) tomato's
- 15 The excited children were _____ up and down.
- (A) jumpping
(B) jumping
(C) jumpin
- 16 Mom was vexed with Aidan and told him he was _____.
- (A) immature
(B) imature
(C) inmature
- 17 The flight to New York has been _____.
- (A) canseled
(B) cancelled
(C) cancellede
- 18 The students were told to complete _____ projects by the end of the week.
- (A) they're
(B) there
(C) their
- 19 The mountain was _____ drawn in the painting.
- (A) beautifully
(B) beatifully
(C) beautifuly
- 20 I helped my father paint the kitchen _____.
- (A) ceiling
(B) cieling
(C) ceeling
- 21 My sister has gained much of her _____ from reading books.
- (A) knowledge
(B) knowledge
(C) knowlege
- 22 Mr Simpson took a lot of _____ on his holiday.
- (A) photos
(B) photoes
(C) photo's
- 23 Ethan looked _____ at the sandwiches on the table.
- (A) hungryly
(B) hungrily
(C) hungriley
- 24 The _____ will be closed next week for repairs.
- (A) libry
(B) libary
(C) library

- 13 (A) (B) (C)
14 (A) (B) (C)
15 (A) (B) (C)
16 (A) (B) (C)

- 17 (A) (B) (C)
18 (A) (B) (C)
19 (A) (B) (C)
20 (A) (B) (C)

- 21 (A) (B) (C)
22 (A) (B) (C)
23 (A) (B) (C)
24 (A) (B) (C)

Questions 25–36

Tip

Work through this set of questions without stopping.
Time yourself. Can you do them in less than 10 minutes?
Check your answers in the back of the book.

25 It is not _____ to bring any money with you.

- (A) necessary
(B) necesarry
(C) necessry

26 The nurse spoke _____ to the frightened child.

- (A) gently
(B) gentley
(C) gently

27 I thought the colour of the trees in the painting was _____.

- (A) unnatural
(B) unnaturall
(C) unnatural

28 Mrs Gomez asked for a _____ for the picture she had bought.

- (A) receipt
(B) receipt
(C) reciept

29 The doctor advised Mr Barton to eat a _____ diet.

- (A) healthyer
(B) healthier
(C) healthyr

30 The result of last Saturday's match was very _____.

- (A) surprising
(B) suprising.
(C) serprising

31 My grandmother looked after us when we were _____.

- (A) babys
(B) baby's
(C) babies

32 Everyone was _____ when the match was cancelled because of bad weather.

- (A) disappointed
(B) dissappointed
(C) disapointed

33 The farmer took the young _____ to market.

- (A) calfs
(B) calves
(C) calives

34 The police officer was _____ all the traffic.

- (A) stopping
(B) stoppin
(C) stoping

35 I can't see my friends. _____ at the match today.

- (A) They're
(B) There
(C) Their

36 Do you know Mr Campbell's new _____.

- (A) adress
(B) address
(C) adres

25 (A) (B) (C)

29 (A) (B) (C)

33 (A) (B) (C)

26 (A) (B) (C)

30 (A) (B) (C)

34 (A) (B) (C)

27 (A) (B) (C)

31 (A) (B) (C)

35 (A) (B) (C)

28 (A) (B) (C)

32 (A) (B) (C)

36 (A) (B) (C)

How did I do?

A Check your answers to the Practice test questions (see page 108).

14 or fewer questions correct:
You need to revise all areas much harder
(0–40%)

15–29 questions correct:
You need more revision in weak areas
(41–80%)

30 or more questions correct:
Well done, you can move to the next topic
(81%+)

B Study this table. Which key points and question types do you need to revise?

Key points tested	Questions in Practice test
Plurals	5, 14, 22, 31, 33
Suffixes: Doubling rule	4, 17, 19, 34
Suffixes: Dropping -e, change -y to -i or -ie	1, 2, 3, 8, 11, 23, 26, 29
Adding prefixes	7, 10, 16, 27, 32
ie/ei rule	6, 20, 28
Grammatical homophones	9, 18, 35
Tricky words	10, 12, 13, 19, 21, 24, 25, 30, 36

Notes

- Plurals:** Remember which words add -es or change -y to -ies in the plural.
- Suffixes:** Remember the spelling changes needed when suffixes are added to words. Sometimes the final letter is doubled. For other words, the final -e is dropped, or -y is changed to -i or -ie.
- Adding prefixes:** We do not change the spelling of the original word when we add a prefix.
- ie or ei:** Remember the general rule: 'i' before 'e' when the sound is 'ee'. Learn the exceptions.
- Tricky words:** Make a list of words you have difficulty in spelling and learn them.

C Copy and complete this table.

Spelling: How did I do?	
Date I completed the tests	
Total score	
Types of questions I found easy	
Types of questions I found difficult	
How can I improve?	