

Confusing Words

Choose the correct word.

1 ALLOW / LET

1. Why don't you _____ me go? All my friends are going.
2. I would not _____ a child to have a TV or a computer in their room.
3. We don't _____ employees use the office telephone for personal calls.
4. How much time do you _____ yourself to get ready in the morning?

2 ANCESTOR / DESCENDANT / PREDECESSOR

1. Kennedy's _____ as president was the war hero Dwight Eisenhower.
2. There were portraits of his _____ on the walls of the room.
3. She is a _____ of Queen Victoria.
4. He returned to Ireland, where his mother's _____ lived.
5. We owe it to our _____ to leave them a clean world to live in.
6. My _____ worked in this job for twelve years.

3 DISCOVER / INVENT

1. Was it Graham Bell who _____ the telephone?
2. Was it Christophorus Columbus who _____ America?
3. She _____ that her husband was having an affair.
4. He has _____ a wholly factitious story about his past.

4 EATABLE / EDIBLE

1. Only leaves of the plant are _____.
2. My friend is not good at cooking but it is _____.
3. Are this mushrooms _____?
4. Raw meat is _____ but yet not _____ until it has been cooked.

5 FELL / FELT

1. He _____ the side of the kettle to see if it was still hot.
2. He always _____ himself inferior to his brothers.
3. When the teacher walked in, the children's voices _____ to a whisper.
4. I _____ down the stairs and injured my back.
5. He was so rude I _____ like slapping his face.
6. The audience was still laughing as the curtain _____.

6 LAST / LATEST / LATTER

1. You can go there either by plane or train. The _____ costs less.
2. The next meeting will be held in the _____ week in June.
3. His _____ film is one of the funniest he's ever made.
4. The _____ version of their graphics package was handed out today.
5. Total profit was £550 million in the _____ half of 2003.
6. I swear this is the _____ cigarette I will ever smoke.

7 RELATION / RELATIONSHIP

1. Studies show that there is a strong _____ between income and mental health.
2. _____ between China and the United States are tense at the moment.
3. How is your _____ with your father?
4. All our friends and _____ came to our wedding.

8 BEAT / WIN

1. No matter who _____ the war, there will be heavy casualties on both sides.
2. She _____ the poor horse, but it couldn't go any faster.
3. I'm not very good at chess. He always _____ me.
4. I have never _____ any money on the lottery.

9 CLASSIC / CLASSICAL

1. Do you prefer _____ music like Mozart and Bach, or pop?
2. The show is a _____ example of TV made for children.
3. She was wearing a _____ dark blue skirt.
4. I love the _____ lines of her dress designs.

10 CONTINUAL / CONTINUOUS

1. There is a _____ humming of bees outside my window.
2. I've had _____ problems with this car ever since I bought it.
3. My computer makes a _____ low buzzing noise.
4. In the end, it was the _____ drinking that destroyed him.

11 EMPLOYEE / EMPLOYER

1. All the _____ have asked for more money but I don't think the boss will give it to them.
 2. The unions are negotiating with the _____ to get higher wages for the workers.
 3. If any _____ needs to take time off, he should contact the Personnel Department.
- I'm very lucky - I love my job and Geoff really is the ideal _____.

12 REMEMBER / REMIND

1. She _____ seeing him leave an hour ago.
2. I need the notes to _____ me what to say.
3. That song always _____ me of our holiday in Mexico.
4. I _____ that I was really nervous on my first day at school.

13 ELECTRIC / ELECTRICAL

1. My brother is studying to be an _____ engineer.
2. We can warm up the room quite quickly with this _____ fire.
3. Our _____ bill for July was £165.
4. There is a 20% discount on all _____ goods until the end of the week.