

Confusing Words

Choose the correct word.

1 AVOID / EVADE / PREVENT

1. Mike swerved sharply to the left to _____ crashing into the lorry.
2. The rules are intended to _____ accidents.
3. She leaned forward to kiss him but he _____ her by pretending to sneeze.
4. We were _____ from entering the site.
5. It makes no sense to try to _____ paying taxes. Sooner or later, the tax office will find out about it.
6. Pregnant women should _____ certain foods such as raw eggs.

2 COMPLEMENT / COMPLIMENT

1. Strawberries and cream _____ each other perfectly.
2. I must _____ you on your handling of a very difficult situation.
3. The music _____ her voice utterly.
4. I take it as a _____ when people say I look like my mother.

3 FIT / SUIT

1. I don't have anything that really _____ the occasion.
2. Short skirts don't really _____ me - I don't have the legs for them.
3. If you can't _____ all the cases in your car, I can take a few in mine.
4. I don't suppose I have any books that would _____ your sophisticated tastes.

4 GAME / PLAY

1. Would you like a _____ of tennis?
2. The students performed a _____ by Shakespeare and song some folk songs.
3. Radio _____ are always much better than TV _____ - you can use your imagination more.
4. The children invent some fantastic _____ to occupy themselves.

5 HIGH / TALL

1. Sally is very _____ and slim - she could get a job as a model.
2. The light swift is too _____ for a child to use.
3. The _____ trees by the river give welcome shade on hot days.
4. There are some _____ mountains in the north of the country.

6 JOB / WORK

1. Terry has had five _____ in the past seven years.
2. What sort of _____ are you experienced in?
3. It's very difficult trying to bring up two children while doing a full-time _____.
4. In common with many mothers, she feels torn between her family and her _____.

7 ROB / STEAL / BURGLE

1. The house was _____ while they were all sleeping.
2. They were so poor they had to _____ in order to eat.
3. Two thieves attacked him last night and _____ him of all his money.
4. A thief broke into the building last night and _____ some valuable paintings.
5. Art thieves have _____ homes by cutting through the walls with a chain saw.
6. My wallet is gone! I've been _____!

8 AMOUNT / NUMBER

1. Large _____ of invitations were sent.
2. He paid regular _____ of money to a charity.
3. The _____ of homeless children in the city has risen alarmingly.
4. The _____ of money you make in a year depends on the _____ of deals you close.

9 CHILDISH / CHILDLIKE

1. It's simply _____ to refuse to talk to her.
2. All her life she had a _____ trust in other people.
3. I do wish you'd grow up, John! You're so _____ at times.
4. She's old but she has a very _____ manner.

10 CLOTHES / CLOTHS

1. She wore a dress made of several kinds of beautiful _____.
2. Just a moment, let me change my _____.
3. His _____ were made of _____ of many different colours.
4. There are some _____ in the closet.

11 FARE / FEE / FINE

1. The lawyer is good, but he charges huge _____.
2. If found guilty, he faces six months in jail and a heavy _____.
3. Train _____ increases of five percent are envisaged for the next year.
4. The entrance _____ is six pounds, two pounds for the unwaged.
5. The librarian slapped a _____ on him for returning the books late.
6. Some economists say that the age of cheap air _____ is over.

12 FLAVOUR / TASTE

1. Add a little salt to bring out the _____ of the herbs.
2. _____ this sauce and tell me if it needs seasoning.
3. You can use fresh herbs to _____ the soup.
4. Aniseed has a very distinctive _____ - I don't like it personally.

13 GET UP / WAKE UP

1. I _____ in the middle of the night to find myself another blanket because I was cold.
2. Why am I still tired when I _____?
3. John was _____ by throwing a bucket of water on him.
4. I _____ around 7 o'clock but I don't _____ until around 8.