

Words easily confused

Use the correct form of the words in the boxes to complete the sentences in each group A-I below. You may use some of the words more than once. In some cases, more than one word may be correct.

A

stop avoid forbid prohibit ban prevent escape

- 1 Smoking has been _____ in all public places.
- 2 The examiner asked the students to _____ writing and put down their pens.
- 3 The government has taken strict measures to _____ accidents on motorways.
- 4 I take these pills to _____ getting seasick while travelling by boat.
- 5 For reasons of hygiene, animals are _____ to enter hospitals.
- 6 She tried to _____ her husband from informing the authorities.
- 7 She was lucky to _____ a conviction for shoplifting.

B

blame accuse arrest charge convict sentence

- 1 The police _____ Mr Jones and _____ him with assault.
- 2 Despite the student's protests, the teacher _____ her of cheating.
- 3 The man was _____ of murder and _____ to twenty years in prison.
- 4 Don't _____ us for the broken window, we weren't playing football this morning.

C

complaint annoyance accusation disappointment

- 1 Much to our _____, we had to wait for over an hour to purchase the tickets.
- 2 Despite the media hype, the concert was a real _____.
- 3 I wish to make a(n) _____ about the quality of the food.
- 4 Don't make false _____ when you don't have proof.

D

chase pursue hunt follow

- 1 A stray dog _____ me home today and I'm thinking of keeping it.
- 2 My brother and I used to _____ each other around the house when we were young.
- 3 Police have been _____ the terrorists for weeks now but still haven't found them.
- 4 He wanted to _____ a career in engineering.

E

cause excuse reason purpose aim

- 1 John has to find a good _____ for being late, otherwise he'll get into trouble.
- 2 The _____ of the meeting is to discuss next year's plans. If you can't attend it, you must have a good _____, as the _____ is to get everybody's opinion.
- 3 The carelessness of the driver was the _____ of the fatal accident.

F

rob steal burgle hijack deceive cheat lie shoplift blackmail

- 1 The criminal's innocent looks _____ people into trusting him.
- 2 "Don't _____ to me. I know you weren't at school today!" shouted my mother.
- 3 Our house was _____ last night and all our valuables were _____.
- 4 Two terrorists _____ the plane and made the pilot change course.
- 5 The student tried to _____ during the test, but the teacher caught him and took away his paper.
- 6 As a teenager, Bob _____ from the local store and was even caught once.
- 7 Two men _____ the bank on Elm Street this morning.
- 8 Kim _____ John by demanding \$1000 so that she wouldn't reveal his secret.

G

attack knock hit beat blow strike

- 1 It's dangerous to _____ people on the head.
- 2 The child was _____ by a vicious dog and had to be taken to hospital.
- 3 She never _____ on the door before entering.
- 4 Some football hooligans started to _____ each other after the match, so the police had to intervene.
- 5 He received a severe _____ on the head, which left him unconscious.
- 6 The church clock in the village square began to _____ ten.

H robber thief burglar kidnapper convict criminal pickpocket victim hostage

- 1 The _____ demanded one million dollars as ransom for the release of their _____.
- 2 A _____ snatched the old lady's handbag from her arm.
- 3 The _____ responsible for breaking into the flat next door have been caught.
- 4 The bank _____ escaped through the fire exit.
- 5 Most of the gang's _____ were old people living on their own.
- 6 The escaped _____ was caught within 24 hours.
- 7 When you travel, always be wary of _____, who can steal your wallet without you realising it.
- 8 Jack the Stabber is one of the country's most wanted _____. It is said that he has murdered ten people.

I forget leave ignore neglect omit

- 1 I _____ to turn off the TV last night, so it was left on all night long.
- 2 It's cruel to _____ pets as they rely on their owners.
- 3 Why is Jill _____ Bill? Aren't they talking to each other anymore?
- 4 I don't want people to know I was involved in this project so _____ my name from the credits.
- 5 I've _____ the concert tickets upstairs. Could you get them?