

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

protect rescue save support secure defend guard

- 1 We bought a watchdog to _____ our house.
- 2 In times of a war every soldier is obliged to _____ his country.
- 3 The paramedics managed to _____ the driver from the debris of the car, but they couldn't _____ the passenger, who had been seriously injured.
- 4 Make sure you _____ all items on the roof-rack so that nothing falls off.
- 5 Wildlife organisations aim to _____ rare species of animals from becoming extinct by _____ them from dangerous situations and _____ safer places for them to live in.
- 6 Parents must _____ their children during the difficult times in their life.

B

injure wound hurt collapse harm

- 1 During the earthquake a number of buildings _____ and hundreds of people were _____.
- 2 My grandfather fought in World War II, but he was sent home when he was _____.
- 3 Let go of my hand! You're _____ me!
- 4 The dog won't _____ you. It's friendly.
- 5 The athlete had a heart attack and _____ as he was running.

C damage injury wound pain ache

- 1 John was in a lot of _____ when he cut his finger with a knife and had to have the _____ stitched.
- 2 The hurricane caused millions of dollars worth of _____.
- 3 After a couple of days the _____ in my lower back had gone.
- 4 Kelly's _____ was serious, so she was taken to hospital.

D endanger risk threaten warn

- 1 I must _____ you about my dog - it's vicious.
- 2 The security guards dealt with the robbers without _____ any lives.
- 3 Our neighbours _____ to call the police if we didn't turn the music down.
- 4 The World Wildlife Fund updates its list of _____ species every year.
- 5 She _____ her life to save the young boy from drowning.

E illness disease infection sickness weakness accident incident

- 1 If you don't want to get a(n) _____, I suggest you clean and dress the wound.
- 2 Penicillin has been used to fight many infectious _____.
- 3 Some people suffer from altitude _____ at many mountain ski resorts.
- 4 Young children come down with many _____ when they first go to school.
- 5 Charles had a(n) _____ at work and he was taken to hospital.
- 6 I must be coming down with the flu because I have a general feeling of _____.
- 7 A serious _____ near the border made the government take strict measures concerning immigration.

F cure heal treat recover overcome

- 1 It took me months to _____ my grandmother's death.
- 2 Mavis was _____ for her wound and within days it began to _____.
- 3 Ethel _____ from her illness after being confined to bed for a fortnight.
- 4 When my father came out of hospital, he seemed to be completely _____; however, his condition deteriorated after a few days.

G sensible sensitive sensational emotional

- 1 The concert was fantastic and the laser show _____.
- 2 Buying a cheaper car was a(n) _____ decision considering you had a limited budget.
- 3 Joel is really _____ and cries if you raise your voice.
- 4 You look _____ in that dress. You should buy it.
- 5 Apart from food and shelter, the refugees needed _____ support.

H produce develop increase build up create progress advance improve

- 1 If we take out another loan, we'll just _____ financial difficulties for ourselves.
- 2 Italy _____ some of the most stylish cars on the market.
- 3 Medicine has _____ in the last decade, with many more diseases being cured.
- 4 Max is a weak student and I try to _____ his confidence by asking him to work with more _____ students.
- 5 My French has _____ so much that I can have a conversation with a native speaker.
- 6 He has hopes of _____ his business and _____ his profits.
- 7 The weather has _____ quite a lot lately.

I

reduce decrease destroy drop lower demolish fall

- 1 _____ your voice. The baby is asleep in the next room.
- 2 You should _____ speed when you're approaching a pedestrian crossing.
- 3 During the night the temperature _____ by ten degrees.
- 4 The village was completely _____ by the earthquake.
- 5 Don't _____ the eggs, otherwise the whole kitchen will stink.
- 6 The old building was _____ with the use of dynamite.
- 7 Peak season is over, so all the hotels in the area are _____ their rates.