

CONFUSED WORDS 4

1 AISLE / ISLE

1. There are the Bikini Islanders, a gentle people who consider the tiny _____ their home.
2. Would you like an _____ seat or would you prefer to be by the window?
3. This season a floaty chiffon knee-length skirt paired with a Fair _____ sweater or a tweedy jacket will look extremely hip.
4. I spend much of my time at the shops, wandering through the _____.

2 ALL TOGETHER / ALTOGETHER

1. We are _____ to celebrate his anniversary.
2. The book was € 13.50 and the magazine was € 5.25, so it was € 18.75 _____.
3. Put your clothes _____ in one pile and I'll wash them for you.
4. She wrote less and less often, and eventually she stopped _____.

3 ALLUSIVE / ELUSIVE

1. The answers to these questions remain as _____ as ever.
2. Her music is witty, ironic, and _____.
3. I'm tired of his _____ speech. He should just say what he means.
4. I had no luck in tracking down this _____ man.

4 AMORAL / IMMORAL

1. Humans, he argues, are _____ and what guides them is not any sense of morality but an instinct for survival.
2. The council judged the film to be _____ and obscene.
3. The client pays for the _____ expertise of the lawyer.
4. It's an _____ tax, because the poor will pay relatively more.

5 AMID / AMONG

1. _____ the chaos he went mad.
2. He preferred the first wine _____ the four options.
3. She enjoyed being _____ her friends.
4. The two prisoners escaped _____ the confusion that followed the fire.

6 APPRAISE / APPRISE

1. The president has been _____ of the situation.
2. At the end of each teaching practice, trainee teachers are asked to _____ their own performance.
3. He had the stamp collection _____ by an expert.
4. Have the customers been fully _____ of the advantages?

7 ASSUME / PRESUME

1. I _____ you knew each other because you went to the same school;
2. Two of the journalists went missing and are _____ dead.
3. I _____ the role of the aggressor in the conversation. (s.p.)
4. He had _____ too great a level of familiarity.

8 DEFUSE / DIFFUSE

1. Television is a powerful means of _____ knowledge.
2. Bomb disposal experts have _____ a 110-pound bomb at a subway station this afternoon.
3. The negotiator successfully _____ the situation (s.p.)
4. The drop of red dye _____ slowly in the water. (s.p.)

9 ELICIT / ILLICIT

1. The questionnaire was intended to _____ information on eating habits.
2. Suspecting that his wife was having an _____ affair, he warned her to stop.
3. He was hopeful that his request would _____ a positive response.
4. The UN estimated that the _____ drug trade is worth billions every year.

10ERRAND / ERRANT

1. I'll meet you at six, I've got some _____ to run first.
2. His _____ son ran up debts of over £3000.
3. A mountaineer and his St Bernard setting off on an _____ of mercy.
4. No search parties are sent out for the _____ travellers.
5. Leave the car at home, walk for short _____ or use your bike.

11FINALLY / AT LAST / LASTLY / IN THE END

1. There were no taxis and we _____ got home at 2 pm.
2. She has _____ given me the book she promised me.
3. We need eggs, milk, sugar, bread and, _____, we mustn't forget yoghurt for Dad.
4. We were going to ski in Austria, then the South of France and _____ we decided to go to Italy.
5. I've thanked my parents but _____ I must thank all my friends for their help.
6. And then, _____, after months of discussion they offered to buy our house.
7. They're here _____ !! We've been waiting half an hour.
8. She had over twenty interviews but Jasmine has _____ got a job as a journalist.

12AFFLUENT / EFFLUENT

1. Cigarette smoking used to be commoner among _____ people.
2. Ground water is polluted by industrial _____ and human waste.
3. He is becoming more and more _____.
4. _____ from local factories are finding their way into the river.

13ALLUDE / ELUDE

1. The thief _____ the authorities for months.
2. She had a way of _____ to Jean but never saying her name.
3. After three years, the cup still _____ him.
4. She mentioned some trouble that she'd had at home and I guessed she was _____ to her son.

14AMBIGUOUS / AMBIVALENT / EQUIVOCAL

1. He has fairly _____ feelings towards his father.
2. What do you think the title really means? It's rather _____, isn't it?
3. They are _____ and, in some cases, they are just wrong.

4. If you don't use the correct grammar the meaning can be a bit _____ and lead to confusion.

5. His words to the press were deliberately _____ - he didn't deny the reports but neither did he confirm them.

6. Some loved her, some hated her, few were _____ about her.

15 BAIL / BALE

1. The girl is charged with manslaughter and is on _____ awaiting trial.

2. The sheepherder went over to his storage hut and brought out one _____ of wool.

3. Calicot, Bakersfield, Calif., has annual sales of 1.4 million _____ of cotton.

4. Because of a previous conviction, the judge refused to grant _____.

5. The straw is left on the field to be _____ later.

6. It was so boring I _____ early.

16 CLIMACTIC / CLIMATIC

1. Some parts of the world seem to be experiencing _____ changes.

2. She was marvellous in the _____ sleepwalking scene in Macbeth.

3. And the final _____ emotional moment is cringe inducing rather than searing moving.

4. Under certain _____ conditions, desert locusts increase in number.

17 COMPEL / IMPEL

1. As a schoolboy he was _____ to wear shorts even in winter.

2. She was in such a mess I felt _____ to offer your services.

3. I wonder what it is that _____ him to exercise all the time.

4. A sense of duty _____ Harry to answer her questions. (s. past)

18 DESPERATE / DISPARATE

1. The two cultures were so utterly _____ that she found it hard to adapt from one to the other.

2. The situation is _____ - we have no food, very little water and no medical supplies.

3. For us to succeed it is essential for _____ groups to work together to achieve these common goals.

4. He seems to have a _____ need to be loved by everyone.

19 ESPECIALLY / SPECIALY

1. He has his shirts made _____ for him by a tailor in London.

2. She loves flowers, _____ roses.

3. This kitchen was _____ designed to make it easy for a disabled person to use.

4. I don't want to be treated _____.

5. There is nothing _____ radical about that idea.

6. She can't be sure she will win, _____ at this early stage of the campaign.

20 FEWER / LESS

1. _____ than thirty children each year develop the disease.

2. People want to spend _____ time in traffic jams.

3. People these days are buying _____ newspapers.
4. Ironically, when I'm on tour, I listen to _____ music.
5. Heath Square is _____ than four miles away from Dublin city centre.

21 WHILE / AWHILE

1. They settled _____ in Virginia before moving West.
2. I lived on my own for _____ but I missed the companionship of others.
3. He worked _____ as a pharmacist.
4. "When did that happen?" "Oh, it was _____ ago."

22 AWAIT / WAIT

1. The neighbours _____ the birth of their first child.
2. I had to _____ on line for an hour to get the tickets.
3. A marvellous reception _____ me on my first day at work. (s.p.)
4. I _____ for her outside while she went to see the doctor. (s.p.)

23 BAZAAR / BIZARRE

1. One of the highlights of the _____, and a great fund-raiser for the group's charities, is the raffle.
2. The whole _____ evening had an unreal quality to it.
3. Oh yeah, one of those _____ little coincidence things happened to me yesterday.
4. The goods which were sold at the _____ were divided in three categories

24 COMPLEMENTARY / COMPLIMENTARY

1. My family and my job both play an important part in my life, fulfilling separate but _____ needs.
2. She wasn't very _____ about your performance, was she?
3. This type of situation would appear to present two problems which are _____ to each other.
4. Our guests said some very _____ things about the meal I'd cooked.

25 DEPRECATE / DEPRECIATE

1. We buy what we like and it's a bonus that paintings don't usually _____ in value.
2. We _____ this use of company funds for political purposes.
3. Though Katherine, unfairly to my mind, _____ the novels.
4. But by how many thousands more did his car simply _____ in value over the same period?

26 DISINTERESTED / UNINTERESTED

1. I was totally _____ in boys.
2. A(n) _____ view on the use of the new intoximeter for testing a driver's alcohol level appears in this month's issue of Motoring.
3. His manner was aloof, and he is said to have been _____ in his family's concerns.
4. As a family friend with no further ambitions, he was able to offer _____ advice to the inexperienced future president.
5. The fact is she is not a dispassionate or _____ witness in this case.