

## Confused words D.

### 1. DESERT / DESSERT

- He \_\_\_\_\_ed his wife and family for another woman.
- If you make the main course, I'll make a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Banyuls is an excellent \_\_\_\_\_ wine.
- They were lost in the Sahara \_\_\_\_\_ for several days.

### 2. DROP / FALL / SPILL

- You have \_\_\_\_\_ some wine on the tablecloth. I hope I'll get the stain out!
- Susie \_\_\_\_\_ her sunglasses into the fountain.
- I was in such a hurry that I \_\_\_\_\_ down the stairs and broke my leg.
- It's no use crying over \_\_\_\_\_ milk.
- John, could you give me a lift and \_\_\_\_\_ me at the bus station, please?
- Poor Kathe \_\_\_\_\_ flat on her face in the mud.

### 3. DECENT / DESCEND / DESCENT / DISSENT

- She \_\_\_\_\_ the sweeping staircase into the crowd of photographers and journalists.
- All I need is a roof over my head and a \_\_\_\_\_ meal.
- We weren't prepared for the \_\_\_\_\_ of thousands of journalists on the town.
- Anyone wishing to \_\_\_\_\_ from the motion should now raise their hand.
- Sam was a \_\_\_\_\_ man. Everyone liked how kind he was.
- Last year John made a \_\_\_\_\_ from Mount Kilimanjaro. When he got home there was much \_\_\_\_\_ from the university students about air pollution.

### 4. DEVICE / DEVISE

- The cartoon characters Snoopy and Charlie Brown were \_\_\_\_\_ by Charles M. Schultz.
- We have a \_\_\_\_\_ that switches the lights on at a preset time in the evening.
- The umbrella was ingeniously \_\_\_\_\_ to fold up into your pocket.
- A trademark can be a powerful marketing \_\_\_\_\_.

### 5. DEFECTIVE / DEFICIENT

- The majority of tinned food is \_\_\_\_\_ in vitamins.
- Although my father has \_\_\_\_\_ hearing, he still refuses to wear a hearing-aid.
- His theory is \_\_\_\_\_ in several respects.
- Retailers can return \_\_\_\_\_ merchandise.

### 6. DISCOVER / INVENT

- Was it Graham Bell who \_\_\_\_\_ the telephone?
- Was it Christophorus Columbus who \_\_\_\_\_ America?
- She \_\_\_\_\_ that her husband was having an affair.
- He has \_\_\_\_\_ a wholly factitious story about his past.





## ★ 7. DEFINITE / DEFINITIVE

- ★ There are no \_\_\_\_\_ solutions to this problem.
- ★ There's a \_\_\_\_\_ family likeness around her eyes.
- ★ Let's make the 9<sup>th</sup> a \_\_\_\_\_ - we'll have dinner and then go to the movies.
- ★ He has written the \_\_\_\_\_ guide to Thailand.

## ★ 8. DISCREET / DISCRETE

- ★ The family made \_\_\_\_\_ enquiries about his back ground.
- ★ These small companies now have their own \_\_\_\_\_ identity.
- ★ They are very good assistants, very \_\_\_\_\_ - they wouldn't go talking to the press.

## ★ 9. DENY / REFUSE

- ★ There was a young boy at the traffic lights asking for money but Tom \_\_\_\_\_ him.
- ★ The soldier applied for a short leave but was \_\_\_\_\_ permission.
- ★ They accused him of having stolen the money but he \_\_\_\_\_ it.
- ★ The French writer Jean-Paul Sartre \_\_\_\_\_ the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1964.

## ★ 10. DOCILE / DOMESTIC / TAME

- ★ They have a big dog, but he's real friendly and \_\_\_\_\_.
- ★ After a few months' contact the monkeys become very \_\_\_\_\_.
- ★ They are \_\_\_\_\_, gentle animals, who will wander your back garden in search of tender shoots to eat.
- ★ A \_\_\_\_\_ animal is an animal that can live with Human. Such as dogs, cats, rats, snakes.
- ★ That lion acts as \_\_\_\_\_ as a house cat.
- ★ The children coped well with the issue of \_\_\_\_\_ abuse.

## ★ 11. DEFUSE / DIFFUSE

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

## ★ 12. DESPERATE / DISPARATE

- ★ The two cultures were so utterly \_\_\_\_\_ that she found it hard to adapt from one to the other.
- ★ The situation is \_\_\_\_\_ - we have no food, very little water and no medical supplies.
- ★ For us to succeed it is essential for \_\_\_\_\_ groups to work together to achieve these common goals.

## ★ 13. DEPRECATE / DEPRECIATE

- ★ We buy what we like and it's a bonus that paintings don't usually \_\_\_\_\_ in value.
- ★ We \_\_\_\_\_ this use of company funds for political purposes.
- ★ Though Katherine, unfairly to my mind, \_\_\_\_\_ the novels.





But by how many thousands more did his car simply \_\_\_\_\_ in value over the same period?

#### 14. DISINTERESTED / UNINTERESTED

I was totally \_\_\_\_\_ in boys.

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.

His manner was aloof, and he is said to have been \_\_\_\_\_ in his family's concerns.

As a family friend with no further ambitions, he was able to offer \_\_\_\_\_ advice to the inexperienced future president.

The fact is she is not a dispassionate or \_\_\_\_\_ witness in this case.

#### 15. DISPEL / EXPEL

I'd like to start the speech by \_\_\_\_\_ a few rumours that have been spreading recently.

The new government has \_\_\_\_\_ all foreign diplomats.

Actually listening to the record does little to \_\_\_\_\_ these feelings of disappointment.

My brother was \_\_\_\_\_ from school for bad behaviour.

#### 16. DISTINCT / DISTINCTIVE

Mars is sometimes called the Red Planet because of its \_\_\_\_\_ colour.

There are two \_\_\_\_\_ factions within the one political party.

One \_\_\_\_\_ feature, however, is the option of a tutorial service by post.

The band's sound is a \_\_\_\_\_ mixture of funk and rap.

#### 17. DISTRUST / MISTRUST

Many politicians are deeply \_\_\_\_\_ by the electorate.

The world \_\_\_\_\_ us and reviles our president for this.

Many of his poems show an intense \_\_\_\_\_ for machinery, which is not surprising for poets of that age

If your opponent hates or \_\_\_\_\_ you from the start, let him.

#### 18. DEFERENCE / DIFFERENCE

They had a \_\_\_\_\_ of opinion about their child's education.

She covered her head in \_\_\_\_\_ to Muslim custom.

Is there any significant \_\_\_\_\_ in quality between these two items?

Well, you could try apologizing to her - for all the \_\_\_\_\_ it will make.

But a loss of \_\_\_\_\_ is very different from a loss of respect for other people.