



# Extension Activities in Spelling and Vocabulary

If you pass a spelling or vocabulary pretest with a score of 90 percent or higher, you are excused from the week's grade-level activities and the final test at the end of the week. Choose something to do instead from the list of extension activities below.

## Using New Words

1. Working with a partner who also passed the pretest, find 10 unfamiliar words from glossaries of books in our room. (You choose 5 and your partner chooses 5.) Learn their meanings and spellings. When the rest of the class is taking the final test for the week, you will test each other on your personal word list. Here's how:
  - a. Partner A dictates words 1–5 to Partner B, one at a time. Partner B gives a meaning for each word before writing it down.
  - b. Partner A dictates words 6–10 to Partner B, who writes them down (no meanings needed).
  - c. Partner B dictates words 1–5 to Partner A, who writes them down (no meanings).
  - d. Partner B dictates words 6–10 to Partner A, who gives a meaning for each word before writing it down. In other words, Partner A defines 5 of the words, Partner B defines the other 5, and both partners spell all 10. Words are counted wrong if either spelling or meaning is not correct.
2. Keep track of words you misspell in your own writing. When you have collected 5 words, use them on your next personal list.

Keep a list of any words you don't master in activities 1 and 2. Learn them the next time you get to choose your own spelling list.

## Using Regular or Alternate Words

3. Use all the words to create as few sentences as possible.

4. Create a crossword or an acrostic puzzle on graph paper. Include an answer key.
5. Learn the words in a foreign language. Use the words in sentences.
6. Group the words into categories you create. Regroup them into new categories.
7. Create greeting card messages or rebus pictures.
8. Create an original spelling game.
9. Create riddles with the words as answers.
10. Create limericks using the words.
11. Write an advertisement using as many of the words as you can.
12. Use all of the words in an original story.
13. Create alliterative sentences or tongue-twisters using the words.
14. Using a thesaurus, find synonyms for the words and create Super Sentences. Ask your teacher for a model.
15. Use the words to create similes or metaphors.
16. Work on a Super Sentence or create one of your own. Ask your teacher for a model.
17. Using an unabridged dictionary, locate and describe the history of each word (its etymology). Create flow charts to show how the meaning of each word has changed over time.
18. Create a code using numbers for each letter of the alphabet. Compute the numerical value of each word. List the words from the highest to lowest value.
19. Take pairs of unrelated spelling words and put them together to create new words. Invent definitions.
20. Create your own activity. Get your teacher's permission to use it.