Key Stage 2 National Curriculum Tests

English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

Administering and Marking the English Paper 2: Spelling





Using the Test Scripts

The spelling test should take approximately 15 minutes to complete, although you should allow pupils as much time as they need to complete it.

Please read out the instructions below.

Listen carefully to the instructions I am going to give you.

I am going to read 20 sentences to you. Each sentence has a word missing in your answer booklet.

You should listen carefully to the missing word and fill this in, making sure you spell it correctly. I will read the word, then the word within a sentence, then repeat the word.

Do you have any questions?

Once pupils' questions have been answered, you should read the 20 spellings as shown on the following pages.

Leave at least a 12-second gap between spellings.

The target words may be repeated if needed.

The 20 spellings should be read as follows:

- 1. Give the spelling number
- 2. Say: The word is...
- 3. Read the context sentence
- 4. Repeat: The word is...

You should take care not to overemphasise spelling when reading out the words.





Question Number	Answer			
1	The word is weary . After the long journey, Fatima was feeling weary . The word is weary .			
2	The word is borough The local borough council wanted to close the town's library. The word is borough .			
3	The word is financial . Due to his financial issues, Mr Bates had to cancel his holiday. The word is financial .			
4	The word is spontaneous . Jeremy loved to do spontaneous things. The word is spontaneous .			
5	The word is collision . The minor traffic collision caused major delays on the roads. The word is collision .			
6	The word is furniture . Zena couldn't wait to buy some new bedroom furniture . The word is furniture .			
7	The word is sensation . Mrs Garrett's chocolate mud pie was a taste sensation . The word is sensation .			
8	The word is tragically . Although the vet tried, she tragically couldn't save the injured animal. The word is tragically .			
9	The word is decency . If you had any sense of decency , you would leave me alone. The word is decency .			
10	The word is echo . The lonely cave returned the hiker's echo . The word is echo .			





Question Number	Answer		
11	The word is scientific . Joshua was very pleased with his new scientific calculator. The word is scientific .		
12	The word is anticlimax. After his party, Anwar's birthday was a bit of an anticlimax. The word is anticlimax.		
13	The word is pleasure . It was a real pleasure to meet you. The word is pleasure .		
14	The word is tension . The tension in the lady's shoulders gave her backache. The word is tension .		
15	The word is reign . Queen Victoria's reign spanned many decades. The word is reign .		
16	The word is infectious . The injection would stop them from contracting an infectious disease. The word is infectious .		
17	The word is temperature . The temperature had dropped considerably. The word is temperature .		
18	The word is definite . Carrie had made a definite decision about her future. The word is definite .		
19	The word is gymnasium . The world's strongest man practically lived at the gymnasium . The word is gymnasium .		
20	The word is illegal . The police made sure that the illegal behaviour was put to a stop. The word is illegal .		





General Guidance on Marking the Spelling Paper

If the pupil makes more than one attempt, it must be clear which answer the pupil wishes to be marked. If the pupil makes two or more attempts and it is not clear which is to be considered, the mark is not awarded.

The pupil can answer in upper or lower case, or a mixture of the two. The exception to this is for days of the week and months of the year, which must be written in lower-case letters with an initial capital letter for the award of the mark.

If the pupil has answered with the correct sequence of letters but has incorrectly inserted an apostrophe or a hyphen, the mark is not awarded.

If the pupil has answered with the correct sequence of letters but these have been separated into clearly divided components, with or without a dash, the mark is not awarded.

Mark schemes and content domain references

Question	Spelling	Mark	Content Domain Reference
1	weary	1	S61 - homophones and near homophones (Years 3 and 4), homophones and other words that are often confused (Years 5 and 6)
2	borough	1	S59 - words containing the letter string 'ough'
3	financial	1	S54 - endings which sound like /ʃəl/
4	spontaneous	1	S46 - the suffix -ous
5	collision	1	S45 - endings that sound like / ʒən/
6	furniture	1	S44 - words with endings sounding like / ʒə/ or / tʃə/
7	sensation	1	S42 - the suffix -ation
8	tragically	1	S43 - the suffix -ly
9	decency	1	S55 — words ending in -ant, -ance, -ancy, -ent, -ence, -ency





Question	Spelling	Mark	Content Domain Reference
10	echo	1	S48 - words with the /k/ sound spelt 'ch'
11	scientific	1	S51 - words with the /s/ sound spelt sc
12	anticlimax	1	S41 - prefixes
13	pleasure	1	S44 - words with endings sounding like / ʒə/ or / tʃə/
14	tension	1	S45 - endings that sound like / ʒən/
15	reign	1	S46 - the suffix -ous
16	infectious	1	S53 - endings which sound like /ʃəs/ spelt -cious or -tious
17	temperature	1	S37 - common exception words
18	definite	1	S37 – common exception words
19	gymnasium	1	S39 - the /i/ sound spelt 'y' other than at the end of words
20	illegal	1	S41 - prefixes
Total			20



