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## Ielts listening confusing words pdf

Spelling is huge concern for my IELTS students. Writing scores are 25% determined by vocabulary, which includes spelling accuracy. Too many spelling mistakes can also seriously bring down your score in IELTS Listening. This list of common IELTS spelling mistakes includes some of the words most likely to appear in the test. Try to master these basic rules in order to minimise poor spelling in IELTS. Single and double consonants Spelling mistakes are common when single or double consonants occur nearby in a word. A single consonant is followed by a double consonant: Across, Process, Harass, Disappoint, Recommend, Tomorrow, Professor, Necessary A double consonant is followed by a single consonant: Parallel, Apparent, Exaggerate, Occasion, Occur (but Occurred), Commit (but Committed) Some common words with two pairs of consonants: Success, Possess, Access, Assess, Address, Accommodation, Embarrass, Millennium Weak vowel sounds Some words are difficult to spell because they contain the schwa or [ə], a weak vowel sound. It is almost impossible to know how to spell such words from their sound alone. Examples of words containing more than one schwa include: Separate (adj.), Definite, Desperate, Temperature, Literature, General, Relevant, Category Other problematic schwa words include: Describe, Decline, Despite; but Dispute, Discrete, Display Capable, Achievable, Understandable; but Possible, Visible, Accessible Performance, Attendance, Ignorance; but Independence, Sentence, Existence Sometimes the schwa sound conceals a barely-pronounced [r]: Opportunity, Pursue, Persuade, Surprise Changes of spelling when words change form A consonant can change when a noun becomes an adjective: Benefit > Beneficial; Influence > Influential; Circumstance > Circumstantial A vowel can change or be lost when a verb becomes a noun: Maintain > Maintenance; Pronounce > Pronunciation, Argue > Argument A vowel may double when a noun becomes a verb: Success > Succeed; Excess > Exceed; Process > Proceed A final consonant is often doubled when a verb changes form: Occur > Occurred; Refer > Referred; Begin > Beginning Silent letters in consonant clusters [nm] in Environment, Government [nm] in Column, Autumn [sc] in Science, Conscious, Discipline, Fascinate, Ascend, Descend [xc] in Excite, Exceed, Exception, Excellent, Excited [dg] in Knowledge, Acknowledge (but just [g] in Privilege, Oblige) [th] clusters in ordinals: Eighth, Twelfth, Hundredth Pairs of frequently confused spellings in IELTS Till ≠ Until (not \*untill) Lose ≠ Loose (one is a verb; the other is an adjective) Affect ≠ Effect (one is a common verb; the other is its noun form) Forth ≠ Fourth (one means 'forward'; the other means 'number four') Fourth but Forty (not \*fourty) High but Height (not \*hight) Great but Grateful (not \*greatful) Precede ≠ Proceed (one means 'go before'; the other means 'go ahead') Principle ≠ Principal (one means 'truth'; the other means 'main') Site ≠ Sight (one is a place; the other is something to see, as in sightseeing not \*siteseeing) Copywriter ≠ Copyright (one writes advertising; the other means 'intellectual property') Finally, some notoriously tricky spellings in English Here are 10 English words of foreign origin that even native speakers have difficulty spelling! Amateur, Entrepreneur, Hierarchy, Liaison, Medieval, Miscellaneous, Queue, Questionnaire, Rhythm, Vacuum Do you make these IELTS spelling mistakes? Have I missed any important words from the list? Tell us what you think in the space below. ✓ Adverse or Averse ✓ Affect or Effect ✓ All Right or Alright ✓ Alternate or Alternative ✓ Among or Amongst ✓ Amoral or Immoral ✓ Appraise or Apprise ✓ Assume or Presume ✓ Bare or Bear ✓ Breech or Breach ✓ Bring or Take ✓ Cannot or Can not ✓ Can or May ✓ Censure or Censor ✓ Cereal or Serial ✓ Cite, Site or Sight ✓ Climactic or Climatic ✓ Coarse or Course ✓ Compare with or Compare to ✓ Compliment or Complement ✓ Continual or Continuous ✓ Could of or Could have ✓ Denote or Connote ✓ Diffuse or Defuse ✓ Discreet or Discrete ✓ Disinterested or Uninterested ✓ Elicit or Illicit ✓ Enquire or Inquire ✓ Ensure or Insure ✓ Especially or Specially ✓ Farther or Further ✓ Flair or Flare ✓ Flaunt or Flout ✓ Grizzly or Grisly ✓ He, She or They ✓ Historic or Historical ✓ Hoard or Horde ✓ I.e or eg. ✓ Imply or infer ✓ I or Me ✓ It's or Its ✓ Laid or Lain ✓ Learnt or Learned ✓ Less or Fewer ✓ Loose or Lose ✓ May or Might ✓ Neither or Nor ✓ Onto or On To ✓ Phenomenon or Phenomena ✓ Pour or Pore ✓ Principle or Principal ✓ Shall or Will ✓ Someday or Some day ✓ That or Which ✓ Themselves or Themselves ✓ These or Those ✓ Too or To ✓ Tortuous or Torturous ✓ Who or Whom "How much do you way? or "How much do you weigh? Is he feeling "sick" or "seek"? Let's pronounce these tricky English words. They can be easily confused with similar words: café, Thursday, ship, thirty The first example popping to our heads is the funny difference between the pronunciation of "sheep" and "ship" as in: Have you ever traveled by ship/sheep? What should I do? Well when you practice pronunciation, make sure you check the phonetic symbols too (i.e. symbols which appear between two forward slashes). Symbols that carry the colon symbol (:) must be pronounced longer. Example 1 seek / si:k / sick / s?k / Example 2 beat / bi:t / bit / b?t / Example 3 seat / si:t / sit / s?t / Example 4 feet / fi:t / fit / ?t / Homophones These words have the same sound but different spellings. The words "meet" and "meat", for instance, are homophones. Their pronunciations are exactly the same. Interestingly, IELTS loves these words and such words are really common in the listening section. Here are some more examples: week - weak wait - weight way - weigh sale -sail sweet -suite hear - here sea - see How to deal with these words There are 2 techniques you need to follow: Prediction: During the 30-second gap before starting each section, look over the questions, look at the gaps and predict what kind of word is needed for each part: noun? verb? etc. At the end of the test, when transferring your answers onto the answer sheet, do check to see if the word you have written really matches the sentence and therefore it makes absolute sense. Capitonyms Words that when begin with a capital letter, their meaning changes. For example the word "Turkey" means the country near the Mediterranean sea while "turkey" is the bird whose meat is very popular for Thanksgiving. More examples: China (the country) - china (as in porcelain) March (the month) - march (to walk) Polish (the nationality) - polish (to make things like shoes shiny) What to do: Although wrong capitalization is not penalized in IELTS listening, it is best to avoid making such mistakes. Have you ever come across some words that just simply confused you? Let's take a look at some of the words that even a native speaker might find it difficult to get them right.The famous British journalist Harold Evans has written down a vocabulary list outlining 30 words that are confusing, and many people have treated them as synonym. Why not take a look at the words and see if you know the differences? You can use this as quiz to test your friends too!01. affect / effectExamples:affect: The bad weather affects my mood.effect: The president effected several changes in the company.02. alibi / excuseExamples:alibi: The police broke her alibi by proving she knew how to shoot a pistol.excuse: I can't buy his excuse.03. alternatives / choicesExamples:alternatives: New ways to treat arthritis may provide an alternative to painkillers.choices: Our choices come down to staying here or leaving here.04. anticipate / expectExamples:anticipate: What Jeff did was to anticipate my next question.expect: I expect that the weather will be nice.05. flagrant / blatantExamples:flagrant: The judge called the decision "a flagrant violation of international law."blatant: Outsiders will continue to suffer the most blatant discrimination.06. chronic / acute / severeExamples:chronic: For those with chronic depression, she said, "keep at it."acute: Acute dysentery wracked and sapped life from his body.07. compose / compriseExamples:compose: England, Scotland and Wales compose the island of Great Britain.comprise: After the 2014 referendum on independence for Scotland, the UK still comprised England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.08. continual / continuousExamples:continual: "No nation could preserve its freedom in the midst of continual war," Madison concluded.continuous: Continuous farming impoverishes the soil.09. crescendo / climaxExamples:crescendo: She spoke in a crescendo: "You are a bad girl! You are a wicked girl! You are evil!"climax: The fifth scene was the climax of the play.10. decimate / destroyExamples:decimate: Famine decimated the population.destroy: The soldiers destroyed the village.11. dilemma / problemExamples:dilemma: Many women are faced with the dilemma of choosing between work and family commitments.problem: The problem of street crime is getting worse every year.12. disinterested / uninterestedExamples:disinterested: A lawyer should provide disinterested advice.uninterested: He was uninterested in politics.13. entomb / trapExamples:entomb: The city was entombed in volcanic lava.trap: The train was trapped underground by a fire.14. flotsam / jetsamExamples:flotsam: The water was full of flotsam and refuse.jetsam: The smallest bits of jetsam, like the most transient incidents in a life, can be the most evocative.15. forego / forgoExamples:forego: So she did his bidding and gave him the cup, which no sooner had he drunk than his head forewent his feet.forgo: Sometimes this priority shift means you have to forgo one goal in exchange for another.16. gourmet / gourmandExamples:gourmet: Food critics have to be gourments in order to write about food in an informed way.gourmand: He's the kind of gourmand who swallows food without even pausing to taste.17. inchoate / incoherentExamples:inchoate: She had a child's inchoate awareness of language.incoherent: The talk she gave was incoherent and badly prepared.18. incumbent(noun.) / incumbent (adj.)Examples:incumbent(noun.) : The incumbent president faces problems which began many years before he took office.incumbent (adj.): She felt it was incumbent on herself to act immediately.19. inflammable / flammableExamples:inflammable: Petrol is a highly inflammable liquid.flammable: This solvent is flammable.20. insidious / invidiousExamples:insidious: Cancer is an insidious disease.invidious: The boss made invidious distinctions between employees.21. judicial / judiciousExamples:judicial: a judicial enquiryjudicious: We should make judicious use of the resources available to us.22. less / fewerExamples:less: We must try to spend less money.fewer: Fewer people smoke these days than used to.23. litigate / dodgeExamples:litigate: The case is still being litigated.dodge: He dodged the bullet.24. luxuriant / luxuriousExamples:luxuriant: Tall, luxuriant plants grew along the river bank.luxurious: They have a very luxurious house.25. prescribe / proscribeExamples:prescribe: The doctor prescribed his patient who was down with fever.proscribe: The sale of narcotics is proscribed by law.26. refugee / migrantExamples:refugee: Refugees were pouring across the frontier.migrant: The government divides asylum seekers into economic migrants and genuine refugees.27. replica / reproductionExamples:replica: Replica is the more valuable, for it is supposed to be more beautiful.reproduction: This is a reproduction of a popular religious painting.28. sceptic / denierExamples:sceptic: The sceptic may argue that there are no grounds for such optimism.denier: He is a denier of harsh realities.29. transpire / happenExamples:transpire: Later, it transpired she had failed the examination.happen: 'It just happened,' she said, after failing her exam.30. viable / feasibleExamples:viable: Cash alone will not make Eastern Europe's banks viable.feasible: She questioned whether it was feasible to stimulate investment in these regions.31 (bonus). viral / viralExamples:viral: I can't believe that video of our puppy lounging on a pool float went viral!viral: Some viral proteins do good. Quiz Test your understanding of this English lesson Test your understanding of the English lesson by answering these questions. You will get the answers and your score at the end of the quiz. IELTS is an English language test for study, migration or work. Over three million people take our test every year. IELTS is accepted by more than 11,000 employers, universities, schools and immigration bodies around the world. Learn more about the test Who accept IELTS scores Ensuring quality and fairness An overview of some of the key features of IELTS and how they contribute to reliable, relevant and fair language assessment. Ensuring quality and fairness IELTS assessment criteria Learn more about how IELTS is scored and download the band descriptors which describe written and spoken performance at each of the nine IELTS bands. IELTS scoring in detail Prepare for the test Once you are familiar with the IELTS test format, you will need to undertake a number of focused preparation activities. How to prepare Role of Synonyms in IELTS listening IELTS exam consists of different sections to judge the overall command on language of the aspirant. IELTS listening section judge the listening skills of the student. This section emphasizes on the concept of paraphrasing and test the knowledge of vocabulary. Yes, it is true that IELTS listening test have a silent feature of testing your vocabulary knowledge. You may have noticed that quite often synonyms are used in the test to confuse the test taker and if he or she have a sound knowledge of vocabulary and synonyms than only the student will able to give right answer. So, today we will see the Role of Synonyms in IELTS listening Acquire Knowledge Related to Different Kinds of speaking Styles To successfully crack the listening test it is mandatory to get knowledge of different speaking styles. They include factual, descriptive, narrative, analytical, argumentative, etc. It will allow you to use the knowledge of to synonyms in a proper way. WHAT ARE SYNONYMS? A synonym is a word that has the same meaning as the other word. The meaning of synonyms may slightly differ as per the content but they are closely related in the terms of meaning. ●HOW TO BECOME EXPERT OF SYNONYMS Synonyms cannot be learned but you automatically become expert when you grasp good knowledge of vocabulary. In today's are of technology learning vocab has became quite easy as on web you can get each and everything just with one click. Synonyms are very important not only for all modules of IELTS but also for our daily life. Thing you are talking about your favorite movie actor and you use the word "Hero" every second how boring it will be and if you use performer, artist, entertainer this will make your conversation interesting. ● IMPORTANCE OF SYNONYMS FOR IELTS LISTENING In IELTS listening synonyms play an important role as in the exam you will not listen the same word as mentioned in the question. The narrator always uses the synonyms to confuse the test taker. For instance, if the question is emphasizing population, you may perhaps hear "number of citizens who live there". This is obvious as this is a reputed test of English language and if you get all the answers easily there will be no meaning of this test. Build A Powerful Vocabulary In IELTS it is very necessary to build a powerful vocabulary as it is needed not only in listening but also in speaking, writing and reading modules. Try some techniques to gather new vocabulary every day and when you find a new word, note it down and discover its synonyms. Even while doing practice of reading keep your eyes open for new words. Use your noted new words in speaking and writing and also try to include their synonyms. Circle Key Words To Discover Synonyms Another effective method to increase your vocabulary is to circle the main words while reading any book or material. After circling the word you should think of their synonyms. For example, you may come across a 'key' word 'excellent'. Now circle this word and write its synonyms. There are plenty of synonyms of this word including outstanding, magnificent, exceptional, wonderful, sublime, matchless, etc. So, you see how simple it is to learn synonyms and enriching vocabulary. Conclusion To sum up, if you manage to perform well in the listening session of the IELTS test, you may earn a decent score. This, in turn, will open doors for you to the plenty of universities worldwide. Last but not least, seeking professional help in the form of IELTS coaching will prove to be fruitful. For more tips about preparing listening exam click here. Thank You SEE MORE POSTS>>

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