

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 country . Deirdre left the country on an aeroplane.			
2	The word is weather . The recent good weather has meant that sales of ice-creams have gone up.			
3	The word is confidential . The spy but the confidential papers inside his briefcase.			
4	The word is courageous . Never giving in, the courageous athlete battled to the finishing line.			
5	The word is confusion . There was terrible confusion in the school corridors when the fire alarm began to ring.			
6	The word is adventure . During the school visit, the pupils had a fantastic adventure .			
7	The word is consideration . My older brother has no consideration for my feelings.			
8	The word is eventually . Eventually , the bell rang for the end of the day.			
9	The word is tendency . Harry had a tendency to over-rely on his twin brother.			
10	The word is creature . Lucy invented a fantastical creature for her story.			
11	The word is league . The dismal rugby club were at the bottom of the league .			
12	The word is optician . When I needed new glasses, I visited my local optician .			
13	The word is autobiography . In his later years, the famous actor wrote an autobiography of his life and career.			





Question Number	Answer			
14	The word is brochure . After looking through a travel brochure , I have now decided on a holiday destination.			
15	The word is scientist . Until he caused an explosion, the mad scientist experimented with different chemicals.			
16	The word is neighbour . Mrs Jennings is my friendly and caring next-door neighbour .			
17	The word is suspicious . The police were following the man because of his suspicious behaviour.			
18	The word is thorough . During a thorough clean of her bedroom, Fiona found three pairs of lost socks.			
19	The word is preferred . Thomas always took a packed lunch to school as he preferred his dad's freshly-made sandwiches to school-cooked meals.			
20	The word is caffeine . You can control the amount of caffeine you consume by limiting fizzy drinks, tea and coffee.			



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	country	1	S40 – the $/n/$ sound spelt ou
2	weather	1	S61 – homophones and near homophones (Years 3 and 4), homophones and other words that are often confused (Years 5 and 6)
3	confidential	1	S54 – endings which sound like /ʃəl∕
4	courageous	1	S46 - the suffix -ous
5	confusion	1	S45 - endings that sound like / ʒən/
6	adventure	1	S44 – words with endings sounding like / ʒə/ or / t∫ə/
7	consideration	1	S42 – the suffix –ation
8	eventually	1	S43 – the suffix -ly
9	tendency	1	S55 — words ending in -ant, -ance, -ancy, -ent, -ence, -ency







Question	Spelling	Mark	Content domain reference
10	creature	1	S48 - words with the /k/ sound spelt ch
11	league	1	S50 – words ending with the /g/ sound spelt -gue and the /k/ sound spelt -que
12	optician	1	S47 – endings that sound like /ʃən/, spelt -tion, -sion, -ssion, -cian
13	autobiography	1	S41 - prefixes
14	brochure	1	S49 - words with the /ʃ/ sound spelt ch
15	scientist	1	S51 - words with the /s/ sound spelt sc
16	neighbour	1	S52 - words with the /eɪ/ sound spelt ei, eigh, or ey
17	suspicious	1	S53 – endings which sound like /∫əs/ spelt –cious or –tious
18	thorough	1	S59 — words containing the letter string ough
19	preferred	1	S57 - adding suffixes beginning with vowel let- ters to words ending in —fer
20	caffeine	1	S58 — words with the /i:/ sound spelt ei after c

