

Practise and consolidate your learning about homonyms, homographs and suffixes by completing our activities. In the first one you need to choose the right homonym from the box to complete the sentences below.

ACTIVITY 1

seize sight weight guest key peace mail vein waste cue
male queue guessed site wait quay waist piece seas vain

Question 1:

They were seeking a _____ actor for the lead role in the musical.

Question 2:

The reading task was too difficult to complete so he _____ the answers to the remaining questions.

Question 3:

The women waited on the _____ to meet the ships and greet their sailor husbands.

Question 4:

The paramedics worked tirelessly in a _____ attempt to save her life.

Question 5:

The _____ is measured to get the most accurate fitting possible.

Question 6:

The boats weren't keen to venture out in the rough _____.

Question 7:

The detective was able to _____ the story together to solve the crime.

Question 8:

When tickets became available for the concert, it wasn't surprising there was a long _____ of people at the box office.

Question 9:

It was an agonising _____ for all when he was recovering from the car accident.

Question 10:

The developers have chosen a _____ for the new sports complex.

ACTIVITY 2

Choose the correct phonetic transcription for the homograph in **bold**.

Question 1: The detective began to suspect the prime **suspect** in the case was lying about her whereabouts.

Answer:
a. /sə'sp kt/
b. /'s sp kt/

Question 2: After the probationary period was over, John was given a two-year **contract**.

Answer:
a. /'k ntrækt/
b. /kən'trækt/

Question 3: Which syllable do I **accent** in 'hagiographer'?

Answer:
a. /'æks nt/
b. /æk's nt/

Question 4: I think the **converse** is true: e-tags will reduce traffic build-up in the city.

Answer:
a. /'k nv s/
b. /kən'vʒs/

Question 5: I'll give you an **approximate** idea of the cost now and a full report early next week.

Answer:
a. /ə'pr ksəmət/
b. /ə'pr ksəme t/



Question 6: The patient made rapid **progress** after the operation.

Answer:
a. /prə'gr s/
b. /'pro gr s/

Question 7: The band will **record** a CD of their latest songs early next year.

Answer:
a. /rə'k d/
b. /'r k d/

Question 8: Your contract with the developer is **invalid** because it hasn't been signed.

Answer:
a. /' nvəl d/
b. / n'væləd/

Question 9: We need to **separate** the various tasks and share them among the group.

Answer:
a. /'s pəre t/
b. /'s prət/

Question 10: Did you say she is a **graduate** of the University of Technology?

Answer:
a. /'græ uət/
b. /'græ ue t/

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ACTIVITY 3

Complete the table using suffixes -ism, -ist or -ic.

| -ism | -ist | -ic |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| capitalism | capitalist | |
| egotism | | egotistic |
| | optimist | optimistic |
| formalism | | formalistic |
| humanism | humanist | |
| individualism | individualist | |
| rationalism | | rationalistic |
| | feminist | feministic |
| pessimism | pessimist | |
| | nihilist | nihilistic |

INSEARCH ENGLISH

ANSWERS ACTIVITY 1

1. They were seeking a **male** actor for the lead role in the musical.
2. The reading task was too difficult to complete so he **guessed** the answers to the remaining questions.
3. The women waited on the **quay** to meet the ships and greet their sailor husbands.
4. The paramedics worked tirelessly in a **vain** attempt to save her life.
5. The **waist** is measured to get the most accurate fitting possible.
6. The boats weren't keen to venture out in the rough **seas**.
7. The detective was able to **piece** the story together to solve the crime.
8. When tickets became available for the concert, it wasn't surprising there was a long **queue** of people at the box office.
9. It was an agonising **wait** for all when he was recovering from the car accident.
10. The developers have chosen a **site** for the new sports complex.

ANSWERS ACTIVITY 2

Question 1: The detective began to suspect the prime **suspect** in the case was lying about her whereabouts.

Answer: b. /'s sp kt/

Question 2: After the probationary period was over, John was given a two-year **contract**.

Answer: a. /'k ntrækt/

Question 3: Which syllable do I **accent** in 'hagiographer'?

Answer: b. /æk's nt/

Question 4: I think the **converse** is true: e-tags will reduce traffic build-up in the city.

Answer: a. /'k nv s/

Question 5: I'll give you an **approximate** idea of the cost now and a full report early next week.

Answer: a. /ə'pr ksəmət/

Question 6: The patient made rapid **progress** after the operation.

Answer: b. /'pro gr s/

Question 7: The band will **record** a CD of their latest songs early next year.

Answer: a. /rə'k d/

Question 8: Your contract with the developer is **invalid** because it hasn't been signed.

Answer: b. / n'væləd/

Question 9: We need to **separate** the various tasks and share them among the group.

Answer: a. /'s pəre t/

Question 10: Did you say she is a **graduate** of the University of Technology?

Answer: a. /'græ uət/

ANSWERS ACTIVITY 3

| -ism | -ist | -ic |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| capitalism | capitalist | capitalistic |
| egotism | egotist | egotistic |
| optimism | optimist | optimistic |
| formalism | formalist | formalistic |
| humanism | humanist | humanistic |
| individualism | individualist | individualistic |
| rationalism | rationalist | rationalistic |
| feminism | feminist | feministic |
| pessimism | pessimist | pessimistic |
| nihilism | nihilist | nihilistic |

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