

Sorting Words – Senior School



We can learn a lot from sorting words.

Sorting makes us look at the spelling patterns and think about meanings.

Sometimes your teacher may provide you with a list of words to sort, sometimes you might be asked to use your reader or library book to find words.

When your teacher gives you a list of words to sort you may be asked to OPEN SORT them. That means you can make your own groups, as long as you can explain to someone why you grouped them in this way.

Sometimes you may be asked to sort them in a particular way. This is a CLOSED SORT.

There may be words left over when you sort. Group these together.

Your teacher may ask you to find:

1. Words with the same start

flat, flag, flash

2. Words that end the same

going, coming, morning

3. Words that rhyme

thought, caught, fort

4. Words that are long

unfortunately

5. Words that are short

air

6. Words with particular vowel clusters:

ai – train, brain *ee – been, green*

7. Words with same number of syllables

sixteen, second, early – all have 2 syllables

favourite, important, medicine – all have 3 syllables

8. Compound words

grandmother, dishwasher, doormat

9. Sort words into alphabetical order

colour, equal, instead, popular..

10. Create word families based on other similarities e.g. find all the months

December, March, May...

SORT WORDS ACCORDING TO PARTS OF SPEECH:

11. Words that are nouns

business, holidays, problem

12. Words that are proper nouns

September, Monday, July

13. Words that are verbs

follow, breathe, consider

14. Words that can be nouns and verbs:

exercise, divide, promise

15. Words that are adjectives

easy, popular, beautiful

16. Words that are adverbs

occasionally, probably, early

SORT WORDS ACCORDING TO AFFIXES OR STEM:

17. Words with suffixes

pulled, hopped, disappeared

18. Words with prefixes:

disappear, return, unhelpful

19. Words with the same stem

graph, photograph, graphic

SORT WORDS ACCORDING TO THEIR ETYMOLOGY:

20. Words with a Latin origin

plural, herbivore, aquifer

21. Words with a Greek origin

Symphony, psychology, graphic