

CONFUSING WORDS QUIZ: Choose the correct "confusing" word from the pair to complete the sentence.

- 1- The (audience / spectators) applauded enthusiastically after the performance was finished.
- 2-I haven't seen him (since / for) over five years.
- 3-(Besides / Beside) the fact that it was difficult, the exam also included questions that we had never studied before.
- 4-I told my boss that I wanted a big (rise / raise).
- 5-The article's (title / headline) read "War Ends".
- 6-He (lay / lie) down for a short nap.
- 7-Could you give me the (receipt / recipe) for that wonderful dessert?
- 8-They (controlled / inspected) his passport on entering the country.
- 9-Please finish your work (by / until) five o'clock.
- 10-That painting by Picasso is (worthless / priceless).
- 11-Have you decided (weather / whether) you would like to come?
- 12-I spent my evening (looking at / watching) television.
- 13-Art (objection / criticism) is a very subjective matter.
- 14-The car tried to (overcome / overtake) the bus on the motorway.
- 15-You will just have to (except / accept) his decision.
- 16-Could you wait a moment? I would like stop (to telephone / telephoning) my mother.
- 17-Could you give me some (advice / advise) on this problem?
- 18-Please (remember / remind) me to pick up some bread at the market.
- 19-Joanna (borrowed / lent) me \$50.00 until next Monday.
- 20-He (said / told) us about his trip to Zimbabwe.
- 21-His help with the contract was (invaluable / valueless).
- 22-He is a very (sensible / sensitive) person. He always has time to listen to people's problems.

23–Hania went to the library to (lend / borrow) the latest Stephen King novel.

24–Magda (assured / insured) us we had made a good decision.

25–Unfortunately, he made a serious (fault / mistake) while working on the plumbing.

**Idioms:**

If you are on **the cutting edge** of a field, you are on the forefront. EX: Apple is always on the cutting edge of electronics innovation.

If you **can't cut it** anymore, you are unable to compete. EX: Bill turned 40 in December and gave up competition. He felt he just couldn't cut it anymore.

**cut down:** killed EX: The machine guns **cut down** the soldiers as they crawled out of the trenches.

**cut loose:** to act free and wild. EX: The men really **cut loose** while their wives were out of town.

**cut him off:** refuse to give anymore EX: Ben was really angry when the bartender **cut him off**.

**make the cut:** qualify EX: He went to the Olympic trials, but he **didn't make the cut**.

**cut short:** stop earlier than intended EX: The lecture was **cut short** when the fire alarm rang.

**cutting teeth:** when teeth come through the gums EX: Babies cry all night when they are **cutting teeth**.

**cutbacks:** decrease in something EX: The latest **cutbacks** have hit educators hard.

The **cut-off** is the deadline. EX: The **cut-off** for turning in your application is September 1st.

**cut-offs:** cut off shorts EX: She wore jean **cut-offs** to the lake.