

## Commonly Confused Words Exercise

**Get your dictionary out**

Choose one of the words in brackets to fill the gap.

- 1 Do you ..... payment by credit card? (accept / except)
- 2 Everybody turned up at Fiona's party ..... her exboyfriend. (accept / except)
- 3 What ..... did the high altitude have on you? (affect / effect)
- 4 Did the high altitude ..... you when you were in Quito? (affect / effect)
- 5 She gave me some excellent ..... about my girlfriend. (advice / advise)
- 6 I ..... you not to get involved in Sandra and Mike's problems. (advice / advise)
- 7 We need to find something to ..... the curtains. (complement / compliment)
- 8 She got annoyed with me because I didn't ..... her on her new hair style.  
(complement / compliment)
- 9 Don't tell anyone about my promotion. I want to be as ..... about it as possible.  
(discreet / discrete)
- 10 Catalan and Valencian are not ..... languages. (discreet / discrete)
- 11 The weather forecast says that rain is ..... . (eminent / imminent)
- 12 Professor Pachorro is very ..... among brain surgeons. (eminent / imminent)
- 13 I wanted to see the ..... about Manet in the Prado gallery in Madrid.  
(exhibition / expedition)
- 14 A recent Spanish ..... to the Antarctic has been collecting data about global warming. (exhibition / expedition)
- 15 The South Downs, a range of hills running across Sussex, are not very ..... .  
(high / tall)
- 16 Tom Cruise is not ..... . He's short. (high / tall)
- 17 This is an ..... device for opening bottles. (ingenious / ingenuous)
- 18 Your argument is ..... . Just tell me why you are in favour of a military solution.  
(irrelevant / irreverent)
- 19 If you want to be a champion, you have to ..... everyday. (practice / practise)
- 20 Learning to dance the salsa is a question of going to classes and lots of ..... .  
(practice / practise)





## Answers

- 1 Do you accept payment by credit card? (accept / except)
- 2 Everybody turned up at Fiona's party except her exboyfriend. (accept / except)
- 3 What effect did the high altitude have on you? (affect / effect)
- 4 Did the high altitude affect you when you were in Quito? (affect / effect)
- 5 She gave me some excellent advice about my girlfriend. (advice / advise)
- 6 I advise you not to get involved in Sandra and Mike's problems.
- 7 We need to find something to complement the curtains. (complement / compliment)
- 8 She got annoyed with me because I didn't compliment her on her new hair style. (complement / compliment)
- 9 Don't tell anyone about my promotion. I want to be as discreet about it as possible. (discreet / discrete)
- 10 Catalan and Valencian are not discrete languages. (discreet / discrete)
- 11 The weather forecast says that rain is imminent. (eminent / imminent)
- 12 Professor Pachorro is very eminent among brain surgeons. (eminent / imminent)
- 13 I wanted to see the exhibition about Manet in the Prado gallery in Madrid. (exhibition / expedition)
- 14 A recent Spanish expedition to the Antarctic has been collecting data about global warming. (exhibition / expedition)
- 15 The South Downs, a range of hills running across Sussex, are not very high. (high / tall)
- 16 Tom Cruise is not tall. He's short. (high / tall)
- 17 This is an ingenious device for opening bottles. (ingenious / ingenuous)
- 18 Your argument is irrelevant. Just tell me why you are in favour of a military solution. (irrelevant / irreverent)
- 19 If you want to be a champion, you have to practise everyday. (practice / practise)
- 20 Learning to dance the salsa is a question of going to classes and lots of practice. (practice / practise)

