

“The Lighter Side” of TEFL



SPELLING BEE

Fill in the blanks in each sentence with two or three words that have the same sound but different spelling and different meanings. The number of blanks equals the number of letters in the missing word.

1. Our team ____ game and lost three games.
2. They agreed __ play ____ more games next week, ____.
3. The ____ golfers watched ____ the ball when they heard someone shout “____!”
4. The four of us were so hungry that we ____ hamburgers.
5. Each player ____ the ball ____ the hoop at least once.
6. As we approached the coast we could ____ the ____.
7. Anna had __ many things to ____ on her new machine that she had no time to ____ any seeds in the garden.
8. At the airport the guide said, “Come this ____ so they can ____ your luggage.”
9. We had to ____ in line until they determined the ____ of our bags.
10. We ____ the boat to the dock so it wouldn't go out when the ____ came in.
11. Unfortunately, we did ____ put a very good ____ in the rope, and it came unfastened.
12. The people on the safari ____ that a ____ of elephants was headed their way.
13. If you sit ____ very quietly, you can ____ the wind blowing through the trees.
14. The man in the ____ coat ____ the notice to me.
15. We ____ on horseback through the tall grass until we came to the ____ that led to the town.
16. Everything looked so familiar; it was as if we had ____ that ____ before.
17. We went to where they were selling boats, and ____ boats had a sign on them that said “____.”
18. The students ____ in their notebooks the sentences that they had learned by ____.
19. The wind ____ the rain clouds away, leaving a clear ____ sky.
20. The father said, “I will sit in the shade out of the hot ____' ____ while my ____ the roof on the house.”

from “The Lighter Side” of TEFL: A Teacher's Resource Book of Fun Activities for Students of English as a Foreign Language edited by Thomas Kral. Printed in 1994 by the United States Department of State.

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Spelling Bee answers

1. won, one; 2. to, two, too; 3. four, for, fore; 4. ate, eight; 5. threw, through; 6. see, sea;
7. so, sew, sow; 8. way, weigh; 9. wait, weight; 10. tied, tide; 11. not, knot; 12. heard, herd;
13. here, hear; 14. red, read; 15. rode, road; 16. seen, scene; 17. four sail, for sale; 18. wrote,
rote; 19. blew, blue; 20. sun's rays, sons raise;