

KS2 English Quiz - Compound Words (Questions)

This KS2 English quiz takes a look at compound words. Compound words are two words together to make a new word. The English language contains many compound words. 'Ladybird' is a good example - it's not a lady, or a bird!

If you are unsure whether a word is a compound word or not, see how many words within the main word there are. If there are two words (that can be complete words in their own right), then you've got a compound word.

Compound words are made from two whole words, so be careful not to be tricked by prefixes when you try this English quiz.

1. Find the compound word in the following sentence.
My auntie looked in her handbag for a tissue.



- auntie
- looked
- handbag
- tissue

2. Find the compound word in the following sentence.
On our science trip, we saw butterflies, wasps, ants and mosquitoes.



- science
- butterflies
- wasps
- mosquitoes

3. Find the compound word in the following sentence.
The waves crashed against the base of the ancient lighthouse.



- waves
- crashed
- ancient
- lighthouse

4. Find the compound word in the following sentence.
My mum enjoys reading the newspaper every evening.



- enjoys
- reading
- newspaper
- evening

5. Find the compound word in the following sentence. They were unable to build a snowman because there wasn't enough snow.



- unable
- build
- snowman
- enough

6. Find the compound words in the following sentence. The headteacher raised her eyebrow when we tried to explain our practical joke.



- headteacher, eyebrow
- raised, eyebrow
- tried, practical
- explain, joke

7. Find the compound words in the following sentence. Billy couldn't find room in the suitcase for his football.



- couldn't, room
- couldn't, suitcase
- room, football
- suitcase, football

8. Find the compound words in the following sentence. She gave a gentle stir with the teaspoon and then replaced the lid on the teapot.



- gentle, teaspoon
- teaspoon, replaced
- teaspoon, teapot
- replaced, teapot

9. Find the compound words in the following sentence. In the afternoon, the grass was so warm and dry that the children decided to go barefoot.



- afternoon, grass
- afternoon, barefoot
- children, decided
- decided, barefoot

10. Find the compound words in the following sentence. I always thought it was a mistake to try to grow strawberries inside the fridge.



- mistake, strawberries
- mistake, fridge
- strawberries, inside
- inside, fridge

KS2 English Quiz - Compound Words (Answers)

1. Find the compound word in the following sentence.
My auntie looked in her handbag for a tissue.



- auntie
- looked
- handbag
- tissue

Handbag = hand + bag.

2. Find the compound word in the following sentence.
On our science trip, we saw butterflies, wasps, ants and mosquitoes.



- science
- butterflies
- wasps
- mosquitoes

Butterfly = butter + fly.

3. Find the compound word in the following sentence.
The waves crashed against the base of the ancient lighthouse.



- waves
- crashed
- ancient
- lighthouse

Lighthouse = light + house.

4. Find the compound word in the following sentence.
My mum enjoys reading the newspaper every evening.



- enjoys
- reading
- newspaper
- evening

Newspaper = news + paper.

5. Find the compound word in the following sentence. They were unable to build a snowman because there wasn't enough snow.



- unable
- build
- snowman
- enough

Snowman = snow + man.

6. Find the compound words in the following sentence. The headteacher raised her eyebrow when we tried to explain our practical joke.



- headteacher, eyebrow
- raised, eyebrow
- tried, practical
- explain, joke

Headteacher = head + teacher / eyebrow = eye + brow.

7. Find the compound words in the following sentence. Billy couldn't find room in the suitcase for his football.



- couldn't, room
- couldn't, suitcase
- room, football
- suitcase, football

Suitcase = suit + case / football = foot + ball.

8. Find the compound words in the following sentence. She gave a gentle stir with the teaspoon and then replaced the lid on the teapot.



- gentle, teaspoon
- teaspoon, replaced
- teaspoon, teapot
- replaced, teapot

Teaspoon = tea + spoon / teapot = tea + pot.

9. Find the compound words in the following sentence. In the afternoon, the grass was so warm and dry that the children decided to go barefoot.



- afternoon, grass
- afternoon, barefoot
- children, decided
- decided, barefoot

Afternoon = after + noon / barefoot = bare + foot.

10. Find the compound words in the following sentence. I always thought it was a mistake to try to grow strawberries inside the fridge.



- mistake, strawberries
- mistake, fridge
- strawberries, inside
- inside, fridge

Strawberries = straw + berries / inside = in + side ('in-' can also be a prefix, as in 'inconsiderate', but here it has the meaning of the whole word 'in').