

# 10





# Compound Words

## Charity Auction



Come to the sixth annual Charity Auction, to be held on November 9 at Laurier Junior High School. Proceeds go to the Grant a Wish fund.

Items include

- a pair of skates once worn by Canada's extraordinary men's figure skater Elvis Stojko. 
- a baseball signed by Joe Carter and his teammates. 
- a telephone shaped like a pineapple. 
- custom-designed earrings. 

See you there!

When Isabel read this notice posted in the cafeteria, she thought some of the words were misspelled, but she wasn't sure. Can you find the three spelling errors in the notice?

Look carefully at these words as they are spelled on the poster: extrordinary, pinapple, earings. All of these words are compound words. When you realize a word is a compound word, spelling it is much easier.

For example: extra + ordinary = extraordinary  
pine + apple = pineapple  
ear + rings = earings

- cell phone
- earring
- extraordinary
- graveyard
- hatchback
- headache
- nighttime
- overdue
- pineapple
- spokesperson
- teammate
- touch-tone
- uproar
- wastebasket
- windshield

### OTHER PATTERNS

- \*kneel
- \*parallel
- radar
- R.S.V.P.
- scuba

\* frequently misspelled word

## Thinking about Words

1. This notice isn't totally hopeless! What two compound words are spelled correctly?
2. Pronounce these words: shortstop / short stop  
What did you notice about the way you said them? The stress for *shortstop* is on the first syllable (shôrt'stop). For *short stop*, the stress is almost equal. What pronunciation rule helps you decide when words are compound words?

## Word Pattern

Compound words are made up of two or more separate words that are usually related in meaning. Sidewalk, football, and **teammate** are all compound words.



## Working with Words

1. Because compound words are really two words joined together in some way, they can have odd spelling patterns, like **nighttime**. Look at these words:

bookkeeper    **extraordinary**    hitchhike    **pineapple**  
 earring    glow-worm    jack-knife    throughout

- Circle the letters where the two separate words are joined.
- What letter combinations look unusual?

2. Compound words can be made up of any part of speech: noun, adjective, adverb, verb. The following list of small words has been organized under one possible part of speech. Use these small words to create as many compound words as you can.

Nouns	Adjectives	Adverbs	Verbs
speaker ✓	some ✓	where ✓	melt ✓
wind ✓	loud ✓	down ✓	flash ✓
shield ✓	glow ✓	up ✓	diving ✓
worm ✓	no ✓		light ✓
hand ✓	cell* ✗		roar ✓
sky ✓			phone ✗

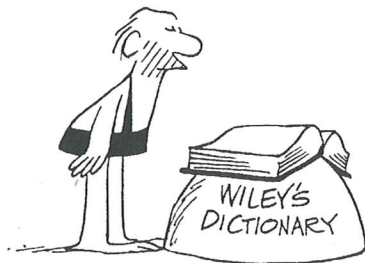
\* the word *cell* in this case is short for *cellular*

3. Not all words containing smaller words are compound words. The word carpet is just one example. Which of the following words are not compound words? Explain why.

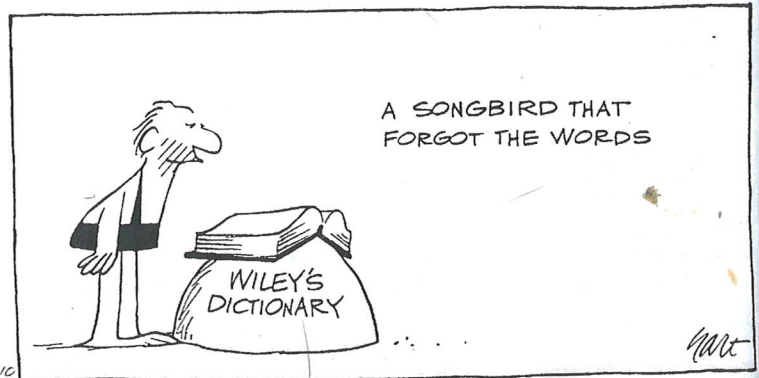
bandit    carnation    **headache**    season    tablet  
 bargain    downsize    carton    suitcase    **wastebasket**

4. Rewrite the four list words that have double consonants.

HUMMINGBIRD



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## Writing and Revising

1. The announcement below was taped to a telephone pole at a busy intersection. If the sale is fifty percent off, so is the writing. There are twelve spelling errors involving compound words. Can you find them all?



2. The list word **uproar** means “a noisy disturbance.” Write about a time when you caused an uproar in your family. Try to include compound words in your story.
3. Make a scrapbook of flyers that come to your house and include any other notices that you find interesting. Try writing a notice of your own to promote, for example,
- a garage or yard sale.
  - an employment opportunity (classified ad).
  - a meeting or event.
  - a specific product.
  - the search for a lost pet.



## The Editing Desk

**Conjunctions** Conjunctions are words that connect words, sentences, and phrases. Some common conjunctions include *and*, *but*, *for*, *nor*, *or*, *so*, *yet*.

- In the sentence, "The parade and the concert were cancelled" the conjunction and connects two nouns (*parade* and *concert*) with an action (*were cancelled*). Both were cancelled.
- In the sentence, "I was late for the bus, so I missed the movie" the conjunction so connects two sentences together (*I was late for the bus* and *I missed the movie*). In this example, the first sentence explains the second.

1. Unscramble the letters in the following nonsense sentence to find common prepositions and conjunctions. Each letter can only be used once to create a total of seven words.

O bail fast Cath! Dean is untrue.

2. Like the conjunction and, each of these other joining words can be used to join two supporting phrases or sentences together. Write a sentence for each one.

- |              |               |                |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| a) also      | b) as well as | c) in fact     |
| d) similarly | e) indeed     | f) furthermore |

3. The conjunction but is used to connect two opposite phrases or sentences together: "We arrived after eight o'clock, *but* by then it was too late."

Here are six joining words that can connect two opposing words, sentences, or phrases. Use each one in a sentence.

- |                 |             |            |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| a) yet          | b) while    | c) despite |
| d) nevertheless | e) although | f) however |

### LANGUAGE MATTERS

Many new words that enter the language are related to technology. Some of these "technology" words are old words that have been given new meanings.

- Just leave it on the machine.
- We've been trying to page you all evening.
- My screen is frozen.
- I don't have enough RAM to open it.