

SILENT LETTERS - PRACTICE

In English there are many silent letters, which are not spoken in English words, for example: 'knapsack'. This word is pronounced 'napsack', the K is silent. 'Rheumatic' is pronounced 'roo-matic', the H is silent.

EXERCISE ONE

Choose the correct missing word below and write the silent letters for the correct missing word.

Example: *That Excel table has five _____.*

a) knobs b) combs c) columns d) stalk SILENT LETTER: N

1) 'Table' _____ with 'cable'.

a) chimes b) pairs c) rhymes d) flows SILENT LETTER: ____

2) The pollution in the city is caused by car _____.

a) smoke b) exhausts c) fog d) plumes SILENT LETTER: ____

3) King Henry the Eighth's _____ lasted for 36 years.

a) sovereign b) ceremony c) coronation d) reign SILENT LETTER: ____

4) There's no _____ Robert will succeed as manager.

a) knowledge b) debt c) doubt d) opinion SILENT LETTER: ____

5) Sir Lancelot was one of the _____ of King Arthur's 'Round Table'.

a) knights b) writers c) citizens d) soldiers SILENT LETTER: ____

6) Susan is over 90 years old, she has so many _____ on her face.

a) knots b) squiggles c) wriggles d) wrinkles SILENT LETTER: ____

7) The snake was _____ so much, no one could pick it up with the stick!

a) slipping b) wrangling c) sliding d) writhing SILENT LETTER: ____

8) The masseur expertly _____ my tired muscles.

a) knelt b) kneaded c) rolled d) palmed SILENT LETTER: ____

9) I just heard someone _____ on my front door.

a) knock b) slap c) knock d) flick SILENT LETTER: ____

10) Peter _____ the cloth with water before he wiped the wall.

a) glistened b) moistened c) trickled d) poured SILENT LETTER: __

11) The people in the car sustained _____ injuries in the accident.

a) ghostly b) briefly c) ghastly d) terribly SILENT LETTER: __

12) Boxers didn't wear boxing gloves in the old days; they used to fight with their bare _____.

a) knobs b) knuckles c) wrists d) thumbs SILENT LETTER: __

13) That girl sitting in the front row isn't wearing any _____!

a) flashes b) knickers c) calves d) designs SILENT LETTER: __

14) Drummers must have a good sense of _____.

a) rhyme b) playing c) rhythm d) listening SILENT LETTER: __

15) She was so happy when the doctor told her the tumour was __

A) foreign b) numb c) calm d) benign SILENT LETTER: __

EXERCISE TWO

In the sentences below **TWO LETTERS ARE MISSING FROM A WORD**, one letter is silent and the other is not. Complete the blank spaces in the words with the **TWO** missing letters.

Example: *I must call the plu __er, my toilet is broken.* **ANSWER:** *plumber*

1. Every evening I watch __estling on TV:
2. The door __ob is made of brass.
3. The referee blew his __istle to stop the match.
4. I can __nestly say I hate Trump!
5. There are too many ve__cles parked in that street.
6. Sa__on is my favourite fish.
7. To make souffle you have to separate the egg yo__s from the egg whites.
8. My cow has just had a baby ca__.
9. You look like you've just seen a __ost!
10. I'm going to eat a chicken __ap for lunch.