

Stuffed Words

A November Brain Teaser Vocabulary Builder

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Stuffed Words

Set 1

People stuff *turkeys, suitcases, trash cans, shirts, school desks, drawers, mailboxes, peppers, sausages, teddy bears, zucchinis, closets, pillows, and their faces*. Some **words**, as you may have noticed, stuff themselves with *other words*.

For Example: Identify the following three words stuffed with **key**.

_____ Benjamin Franklin suggested that it should be our national bird.

_____ the central, topmost stone of an arch that locks the other stones together

_____ an animal with long limbs and hands and feet adapted for grasping and climbing

(Answers: **turkey**, **keystone**, **monkey**)



Use the following definitions to identify the stuffed words. The common three-letter term hidden in each set of five words is printed in **bold type**. Write your answers in the blanks.

ant

_____ 1. to breathe rapidly in short gasps

_____ 2. enjoyable; agreeable

_____ 3. one of the branched horns of various members of the deer family

_____ 4. a living organism that grows by photosynthesis

_____ 5. one who pays rent to occupy or use the property of another

ear

_____ 6. to feel a strong and deep desire for

_____ 7. to practice in preparation for a public or official performance

_____ 8. to look through, inspect, or explore carefully and thoroughly in order to find something

_____ 9. to vanish

_____ 10. the fifth largest planet in the solar system

men

_____ 11. the largest of the body cavities of a mammal; belly

_____ 12. executed or performed by the mind; intellectual

_____ 13. to remove the faults or errors in; to change for the better; improve

_____ 14. an emotional state characterized a potential for impulsive or poorly controlled activity

_____ 15. to endorse; to praise as being worthy or desirable

rat

_____ 16. conforming exactly to fact; without error

_____ 17. a container, usually a slatted wooded case used for storing or shipping

_____ 18. creative writing of recognized artistic value

_____ 19. overstate; to represent as greater than is actually the case

_____ 20. having no fixed or regular course; lacking consistency or regularity

bus

_____ 21. occupation, work, or trade in which a person is engaged

_____ 22. capable of igniting or burning

_____ 23. engaged in activity; occupied

_____ 24. moving or causing to move energetically and busily

_____ 25. dry measure equal to four pecks or thirty-two quarts

ton

_____ 26. a slender wooden stick or rod used by a conductor to direct an orchestra or band

_____ 27. the literary character who heard the Who

_____ 28. a small crisp piece of toasted or fried bread

_____ 29. a spoken language or dialect

_____ 30. one who eats and drinks to excess

ape

_____ 31. the highest point; the tip

_____ 32. to injure the surface of by rubbing against something rough or sharp

_____ 33. a quadrilateral having two parallel sides

_____ 34. to open the mouth wide; yawn

_____ 35. a point of land projecting into a body of water

Avoid empty-brain syndrome: *Think* of one more stuffed word for each set.

Answer Keys

1. pant
2. pleasant
3. antler
4. plant
5. tenant
6. yearn
7. rehearse
8. search
9. disappear
10. Earth
11. abdomen
12. mental
13. amend
14. excitement
15. recommend
16. accurate
17. crate
18. literature
19. exaggerate
20. erratic
21. business
22. combustible
23. busy
24. bustle
25. bushel
26. baton
27. Horton
28. crouton
29. tongue
30. glutton
31. apex
32. scrape
33. trapezoid
34. gape
35. cape