

Commonly Confused Words

Read the definitions for each pair of commonly confused words. Choose the correct word to complete each sentence. Write it on the line. Then write a sentence using the other word.

1. **moral:** having to do with what is right and what is wrong in how a person acts

morale: the state of mind of a person or group; spirit

The soccer team's _____ was low, so the mascot cheered them up.

2. **complement:** to go well with, complete, or match

compliment: an expression of praise, admiration, or approval

I would like to _____ the chef on an excellent meal!

3. **flair:** a natural ability or talent

flare: a sudden bright light

My sister has a _____ for drama.

4. **affect:** to influence

effect: something produced by a cause

The make-up gave the _____ of a black eye.

5. **elicit:** to draw or bring out

illicit: not permitted by custom or law; illegitimate

The journalist wrote an _____ comment about the criminal.

6. **discreet:** cautious in conduct or speech

discrete: separate and distinct

The teacher broke the class into four _____ groups based on what season they were born.