

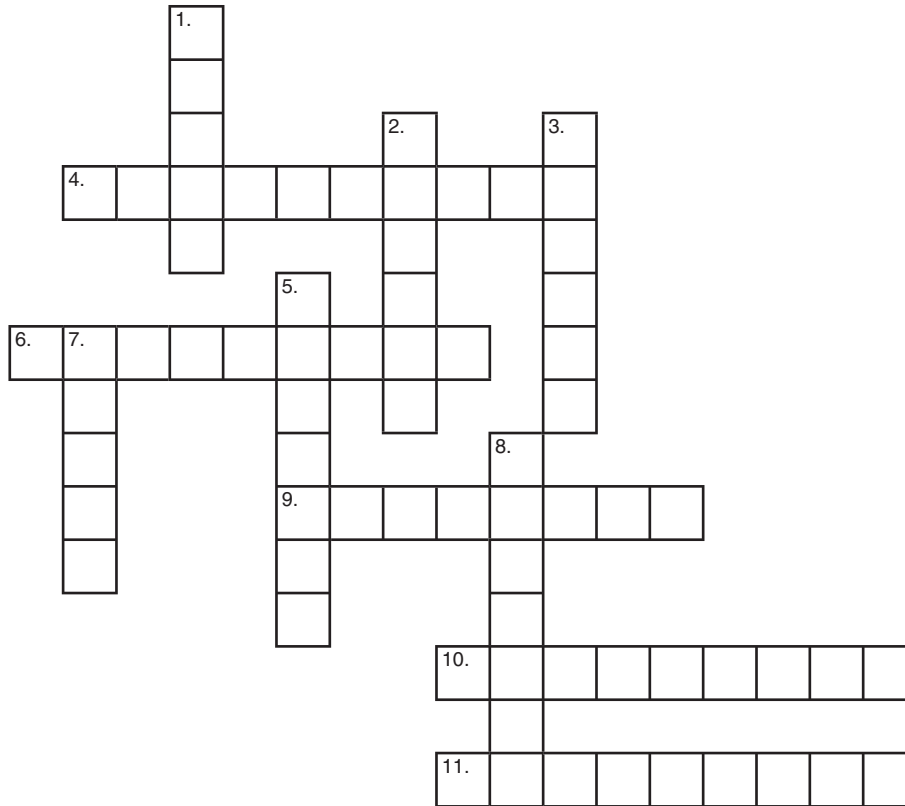
Name _____ Date _____

Words Often Confused

Storm Chasers

Spelling: Words Often Confused

Basic Complete the puzzle by writing the Basic Word for each clue.



Spelling Words

1. desert
2. dessert
3. hardy
4. hearty
5. moral
6. morale
7. laying
8. lying
9. personal
10. personnel
11. formally
12. formerly
13. healthy
14. healthful
15. precede
16. proceed
17. conscious
18. conscience
19. immigrate
20. emigrate

Challenge

sympathy
empathy
imminent
eminent

Across

4. a sense of what is right or wrong
6. to move into a new country
9. to move out of a country
10. people who work for an organization
11. good for you

Down

1. present participle of "lie"
2. robust, healthy, and satisfying
3. abandon
5. to move forward
7. honest and just
8. to come before

Challenge You are an advice columnist for your school newspaper. Write an answer to someone who has a problem. Use three Challenge Words. Write on a separate sheet of paper.

Name _____ Date _____

Spelling Word Sort

Storm Chasers
Spelling: Words Often Confused

Write each Basic Word beside the correct heading.

Often confused verb pairs	
Often confused adjective pairs	
Other often confused pairs	

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Challenge

sympathy
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imminent
eminent

Challenge Add the Challenge Words to your Word Sort.

Name _____ Date _____

Proofreading for Spelling

Storm Chasers

Spelling: Words Often Confused

Find the misspelled or incorrectly used words and circle them.
Write them correctly on the lines below.

For centuries, we have assumed that the oceans were too hearty to actually be harmed by our everyday activities. However, we need to alter this misguided thinking. Scientists have formally challenged governments to address the problem. For those who were formerly uninterested in this issue, the desire to maintain healthful oceans should now be a matter of personal conscience. After all, the seas are all connected. We cannot emigrate to a new, clean planet. For many years, environmental groups have been laying the groundwork for international cooperation. Now that people all around the world are trying to work together, the morale of ecologists is high and it is time to precede. The moral we must learn is: We have the power to improve the environment, if we all make a conscious effort to help.

Spelling Words

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- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 12. _____ |

Name _____ Date _____

Semicolons

Storm Chasers
Grammar: Other Punctuation

A **semicolon** should be used between the two independent clauses of a compound sentence when there is no coordinating conjunction.

The clouds covered the sky; it was dark suddenly.

Semicolons can also be used to separate items. If items in a list already have punctuation inside of them, **semicolons** can be used to separate the items and to make things clearer.

The new students were Gabe from Johnson City, Tennessee; Lance from Chicago, Illinois; and Eric from San Francisco, California.

Thinking Question

What should be used to join two independent clauses without a coordinating conjunction?

Activity Combine related sentences using a semicolon. If the sentences are not related, write “no semicolon.”

1. The sky was growing cloudy. It looked gray and threatening.

2. We saw the storm clouds approaching. They were moving fast.

3. The weather report on TV was wrong. Well, at least I got to stay home from school.

4. I had time on my hands. I had to think of something to do.

5. I thought about watching a movie. I found one about storm chasers.

Name _____ Date _____

Colons

Storm Chasers
Grammar: Other Punctuation

Use a **colon** to introduce a list, to show time of day, and after the greeting in a formal business letter.

The weather is broadcast at **5:15** P.M. and **6:15** P.M.

Tornadoes occur often in the following states: Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri.

Dear Ms. Johnson:
Please add my name to your mailing list.

Thinking Questions

Does the sentence formally introduce a list? Does it include the time of day? Is it the greeting of a formal business inquiry?

1–4. Rewrite each sentence, adding colons as needed.

1. We keep the following emergency supplies in the basement a flashlight, food, water, and blankets.

2. The storm struck the coast at 230 A.M.

3. The following storms can be very dangerous tornadoes, hurricanes, and blizzards.

4. Dear Mr. Petros
Thank you for your inquiry.

Name _____ Date _____

Using Parentheses

Storm Chasers
Grammar: Other Punctuation

Parentheses are used to set off examples, explanations, or supplementary facts. This material is added to a sentence but is not vital to its meaning.

Storm spotters (called Sky Hawks) are always watching the sky for storm clouds.

Thinking Question

If the information in parentheses was removed, would the sentence still have its complete meaning?

Activity Rewrite each sentence. Add parentheses where they are needed.

1. The encyclopedia Volume 10 has a very informative article about tornadoes.

2. The National Weather Service NWS offers updated weather warnings for each state.

3. The 1900 Galveston hurricane September 8, 1900 was a catastrophe for the Gulf Coast.

4. FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency offers assistance for large-scale disasters

Name _____ Date _____

More Comparisons

Storm Chasers
Grammar: Spiral Review

Some adverbs have irregular forms of comparison.

Irregular Adverb	Comparative (compare 2)	Superlative (compare 3 or more)
The cleanup went well .	The cleanup could have gone better .	Yesterday's cleanup went best of any we have done.
Our town fared badly in the storm.	Johnson City fared worse than we did.	Monroe fared worst of all communities.
Jan only studies the weather little .	Brian studies weather less than Jan.	Mike studies weather least of all.
The wind seldom blows much here.	The wind blows more in the plains.	It blows most in the city of Chicago.

1–6. Underline the correct form of the adverb in each sentence.

1. Damaging storms occurred (much, more, most) frequently in 2008 than in 2007.
2. Tornadoes occur (much, more, most) often in spring and summer.
3. The big storm scared our cat (little, less, least) than our dog.
4. Storms frighten our dog, Patches, (much, more, most) of all when she cannot find a place to hide.
5. Does it snow (much, more, most) in Arkansas?
6. It snows (much, more, most) in Arkansas than in Florida.

7–10. Rewrite the paragraph. Use the correct form of the adverb in parentheses in each sentence.

Which kind of storm do people dread (much)? Blizzards shut down travel (much) effectively than tornadoes. People can often prepare (well) for hurricanes than tornadoes, but tornadoes damage things (badly).

Name _____ Date _____

Conventions

Storm Chasers
Grammar: Connect to Writing

Sentence with Errors	Corrected Sentence
Connie's report covered the following topics conditions for storms and preparing for storms.	Connie's report covered the following topics: conditions for storms and preparing for storms.

Sentence with Errors	Corrected Sentence
The weather map Chart B accurately tracked the storm.	The weather map (Chart B) accurately tracked the storm.

Activity Find the errors in punctuation in each sentence. Rewrite each sentence correctly.

1. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NOAA predicted a catastrophic storm.

2. The following facts are important Earth's atmosphere is growing warmer, polar ice is melting, and unstable air masses appear to be causing more destructive storms.

3. Dear Mr. Hilleson
Enclosed you will find the following items a check for \$350, directions for continuing disaster relief, and contact information.

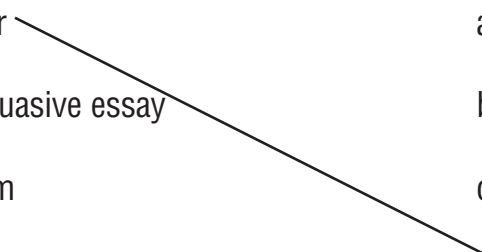
Name _____ Date _____

Focus Trait: Organization

Storm Chaser
Writing: Organization

Draw a line to match each genre below to its organizational features.

The first item is done for you.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. letter | a. conflict, climax, resolution |
| 2. persuasive essay | b. setting, observations, reflections |
| 3. poem | c. topic, main idea, details |
| 4. story | d. greeting, body, closing, signature |
| 5. play | e. rhythm, line breaks, repetition, rhyme, or free verse |
| 6. field notes | f. introduction/goal, reasons with supporting details, conclusion/call to action |
| 7. encyclopedia entry | g. stage directions, lines of dialogue, conflict, climax, resolution |
- 

Name _____ Date _____

Revising

Storm Chasers
Writing: Introduce the
Student Model

Improve each selection by improving rhyme pattern, using more exact words, and showing the proper sequencing.

Wind in My Hair

The wind spoke to me this morning
as soon as I left my home,
It blew back my hair with one swift kick;
It's time to get out my brush!

Weather Report Script

A look at today's weather report shows a chance of showers today under partly cloudy skies. Temperatures will reach the low 70s and then drop to the 60s by this evening.

Journal Entry

The hurricane was the scariest weather event I have ever witnessed in my whole life! By noon the skies were as dark as night. When I woke up this morning, the skies were as calm as can be. There was not a cloud in the sky. The winds picked up very quickly. We heard the news of the hurricane late, so we didn't have time to board up the windows. We ran straight into the basement.

JOURNEYS

Practice Book

Grade 6



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