

Spelling



TREND TASK

Approach: Station

Focus: Identifying and correcting spelling errors.

Resources: None.

Level: Year 8

Questions/instructions:

Here is a piece of writing that has a lot of spelling mistakes. Put a line under each word that is spelt incorrectly, and write in the correct word above it. The first one is done for you.

An Untidy Brother

Sometimes

Sometimes I just canot understand my bruther.

The other day he *desided* to take all his *close* out of his drawers, and he *through* them on the floor. "What are you doing?" I asked. He said that his *favourit* shirt had *dissappeared*. It was not where he *usualy* *kept* it. Of *corse*, he still didn't find it. Two days *latter*, *evrything* was still there on the floor.

% responses	
2002 ('98)	
year 8	
canot → cannot, can not, can't	69 (64)
bruther → brother	89 (93)
desided → decided	54 (57)
close → clothes	68 (72)
through → threw	45 (46)
favourit → favourite	66 (59)
dissappeared → disappeared	30 (30)
usualy → usually	34 (34)
kept → kept	64 (68)
corse → course	52 (53)
latter → later	60 (61)
evrything → everything	71 (71)

Changed words already spelt correctly:

none	78 (79)
1	19 (18)
2-4	3 (3)
Total score: 23-26	24 (24)
19-22	23 (25)
15-18	17 (17)
11-14	16 (16)
7-10	13 (12)
0-6	7 (6)

Commentary:

The 1998 and 2002 results are almost identical, suggesting no change in spelling skill over the four-year period. These results can be compared to those for the following task, *Spelling Corrections*, which was the same task done on a computer.