

TREND TASK

Spelling Corrections

Approach: One to one

Level: Year 8

Focus: Identifying and correcting spelling errors.

Resources: Computer programme on laptop computer.

Questions/instructions:

This activity is done on the computer.

[uses same text as previous task, *Spelling*]

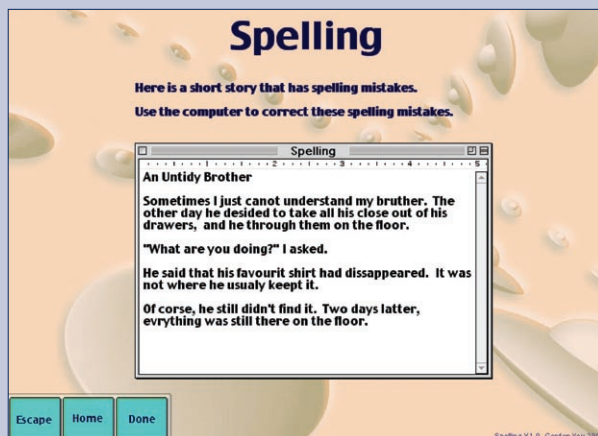
You will see a piece of writing that has a number of spelling mistakes. Your task is to try to correct all of the spelling mistakes you can find.

I want you to do this on your own, including working out how to use the computer.

You can start now.

Click the Spelling Corrections button.

Apart from general encouragement to “try things out”, do not give the student any help with operating the computer word processor.



% responses

2002 ('98)

year 8

cannot → cannot, can not, can't	79 (71)
bruther → brother	93 (93)
desided → decided	62 (60)
close → clothes	69 (62)
through → threw	42 (42)
favourit → favourite	65 (69)
dissappeared → disappeared	38 (44)
usualy → usually	44 (44)
kept → kept	62 (67)
corse → course	54 (44)
latter → later	62 (61)
evrything → everything	77 (72)

Changed words already spelt correctly:

none	83 (87)
1	14 (9)
2-4	3 (4)

Total score: 23-26	25 (26)
19-22	23 (23)
15-18	20 (19)
11-14	14 (12)
7-10	10 (12)
0-6	8 (8)

Commentary:

The results for this task are almost identical overall to those for the previous task, *Spelling*. Again, there was no difference between the 1998 and 2002 results. Making the corrections on a computer, which included a limited spelling checker, proved neither superior nor inferior to making the corrections on paper.