

Name: _____ Date: _____

Wrangle the Weirdest Verbs: A College Grammar Challenge

Can you distinguish between archaic remnants and modern usage? Analyze nuances in strong verb conjugations for academic and professional writing.

1. In formal academic writing, which sentence correctly utilizes the past participle of a verb undergoing a 'strong' Germanic change?

- A. The research team has strove to maintain neutrality.
- B. The artifacts were hidden beneath layers of sediment.
- C. The economy has shrunked significantly this quarter.
- D. The witness had swore an oath prior to testifying.

2. Choose the correct verbal sequence for the following sentence: 'After the subaquatic volcanic eruption, the island ____ from the sea, but the local ecosystem ____ the brunt of the ashfall.'

- A. rose / beared
- B. risen / bore
- C. rose / bore
- D. raised / born

3. True or False: The verb 'to broadcast' is a 'weak' verb derivative, making it grammatically acceptable in many style guides to use 'broadcast' as both the past tense and past participle.

- A. True
- B. False

4. Which of the following sentences utilizes the past participle of 'slay' in a way that respects its historical irregular roots?

- A. The hero had slayed the dragon by dawn.
- B. The dragon was slaying by the hero.
- C. The knight has slew the beast already.
- D. The dragon had been slain before the king arrived.

5. Fill in the blank with the appropriate form: 'Despite the pressure, the whistleblower ____ the truth throughout the deposition.'

- A. spoken
- B. spake
- C. spoke
- D. speaked

6. True or False: The past tense of the verb 'cleave' (meaning to split apart) can be either 'cleft,' 'clove,' or 'cleaved' depending on the regional variety of English and context.

- A. True

Name: _____ Date: _____

B. False

7. Identify the sentence that correctly utilizes the past participle of 'stride' and 'dwell'.

- A. He has stridden across the stage and dwelt on the tragedy.
- B. He strode across the stage and dwelled on the tragedy.
- C. He has strided across the stage and dwelled on the tragedy.
- D. He has strode across the stage and dwelt on the tragedy.

8. Complete the sentence: 'The bells were ____ at midnight, signaling that the treaty had been ____.'

- A. rang / wrote
- B. rung / written
- C. ringed / writ
- D. rang / written

9. Which sentence demonstrates the correct use of the irregular verb 'shrink' in the past tense without an auxiliary?

- A. The fabric shrunk after the first wash.
- B. The fabric shrank after the first wash.
- C. The fabric shrunken after the first wash.
- D. The fabric has shrank after the first wash.

10. True or False: The verb 'to plead' has two acceptable past tense forms: the regular 'pleaded' and the irregular 'pled'.

- A. True
- B. False