

### **CONFUSING WORDS - I**

1. "Our ultimate freedom is the right and power to decide how anybody or anything outside ourselves will \_\_\_\_\_ us." **Affect or Effect**
2. "The single biggest problem in communication is the \_\_\_\_\_ that it has taken place." **Allusion or Illusion**
3. While visual learners prefer to learn information through charts and graphs, \_\_\_\_\_ learners prefer to hear information. **Aural or Oral**
4. Bismarck is the \_\_\_\_\_ of North Dakota and the state's second largest city. **Capital or Capitol**
5. "Here's what we do. We leave the car here, we take the plates off, we scratch the \_\_\_\_\_ number off the engine block, and we walk away." **Cereal or Serial**
6. The governor touched a responsive \_\_\_\_\_ with voters of both parties, especially with her promise to veto any budget plan that included an increase in taxes. **Chord or Cord**
7. The vice president of China belongs to a \_\_\_\_\_ known as the "princelings," descendants of prominent communist officials. **Click or Clique**
8. The new music director favours full-bodied, robust sound, which can build to daring decibel levels in \_\_\_\_\_ moments. **Climactic or Climatic**
9. The prosecutor closed the case, admitting that he was unable to find witnesses to \_\_\_\_\_ the allegations made against Mr. Soprano. **Collaborate or Corroborate**
10. "The most imaginative people are the most \_\_\_\_\_: for them everything is possible." **Credible or Credulous**
11. \_\_\_\_\_ by months of glad-handing and posturing, the candidates stumbled around the stage like finalists in a dance marathon. **Dazed or Dazzled**
12. "Gossip is a sort of smoke that comes from the dirty tobacco-pipes of those who \_\_\_\_\_ it: it proves nothing but the bad taste of the smoker." **Defuse or Diffuse**
13. If so \_\_\_\_\_ an establishment as a three-star Michelin restaurant can serve toxic shellfish, what hope is there for anyone else? **Eminent or Imminent**
14. The driver teased the poor child who had forgotten her bus \_\_\_\_\_. **Fair or Fare**
15. I'm happy to say that the first \_\_\_\_\_ of our operation has met with considerable success. **Faze or Phase**
16. "My sister's bringing up had made me sensitive. In the little world in which children have their existence, whosoever brings them up, there is nothing so \_\_\_\_\_ perceived and so \_\_\_\_\_ felt as injustice." **Finally or Finely**
17. The bright spot in the sky was an unusually large solar \_\_\_\_\_, a stupendous explosion that belched radiation and billions of tons of matter far into space. **Flare or Flair**
18. The first priority of the commission should be to identify restaurant owners who knowingly \_\_\_\_\_ public-health laws. **Flaunt or Flout**
19. "The Wright brothers \_\_\_\_\_ right through the smoke screen of impossibility." **Flew, Flu, or Flue**
20. "Home computers are being called upon to perform many new functions, including the consumption of homework \_\_\_\_\_ eaten by the dog." **Formally or Formerly**
21. "A reformer is one who sets \_\_\_\_\_ cheerfully toward sure defeat." **Forth or Fourth**
22. "Do you promise to jump, \_\_\_\_\_, wail, groove, rock steady, and at all times lend a helping hand to your fellow music lovers?" **Gibe, Jibe, or Jive**
23. "\_\_\_\_\_ laughter is a good way to jog internally without having to go outdoors." **Hardy or Hearty**

24. Last year scientists re-engineered E Coli bacteria so that instead of swimming toward food they \_\_\_\_\_ in on substances released by dangerous pathogens. **Homed or Honed**
25. "The ground beneath our feet is spinning at a thousand miles an hour. The entire planet is \_\_\_\_\_ around the sun at 67,000 miles an hour. And I can feel it." **Hurdling or Hurling**
26. "Salvatore was now a great big husky fellow, tall and broad, but still with that \_\_\_\_\_ smile and those trusting, kindly eyes that he had had as a boy." **Ingenious or Ingenuous**
27. "You are feeding off the violence and the despair of the drug trade. You are a parasite who \_\_\_\_\_ off the culture of drugs." **Leaches or Leeches**
28. Lead or Led "We can chart our future clearly and wisely only when we know the path which has \_\_\_\_\_ to the present." **Lead or Led**
29. "If you shoot me, you're \_\_\_\_\_ to lose a lot of those humanitarian awards." **Liabile or Libel**
30. "The best way to find yourself is to \_\_\_\_\_ yourself in the service of others." **Loose or Lose**
31. Parents are conditioned to put up with a few \_\_\_\_\_ accidents when they leave their children home alone--a broken vase, spilled milk on the rug. **Miner or Minor**
32. Julia Child once grabbed a pepper mill from the hands of an \_\_\_\_\_ waiter before he had a chance to spoil her carefully ordered dish. **Official or Officious**
33. "Yes, gentlemen, I have here just about the handiest, dandiest little book full of gastronomical surprises that ever tempted the jaded \_\_\_\_\_ of a fastidious f-f-food fancier." **Palate, Palette, or Pallet**
34. "The man who unified China in the third century B.C. conquered six other feudal states to do it, built the first version of the Great Wall and in a fit of \_\_\_\_\_ may have buried hundreds of scholars alive." **Peak, Peek, or Pique**
35. "I remain just one thing, and one thing only, and that is a clown. It places me on a far higher \_\_\_\_\_ than any politician." **Plain or Plane**
36. "A public-opinion \_\_\_\_\_ is no substitute for thought." **Pole or Poll**
37. The Canadian government added the Somali al-Shabaab group to its list of \_\_\_\_\_ terror groups. **Prescribed or Proscribed**
38. "All animals, except man, know that the \_\_\_\_\_ business of life is to enjoy it." **Principal or Principle**
39. "Our own self-love draws a thick \_\_\_\_\_ between us and our faults." **Vale or Veil**
40. The movie is beautiful, luscious, and elegiac, but it has the \_\_\_\_\_ drawback of being dreadfully boring. **Regretful or Regrettable**
41. The teacher tried to make conversation, but the boy remained \_\_\_\_\_ and refused to make eye contact. **Reluctant or Reticent**
42. "My \_\_\_\_\_, roaming spirit would not allow me to remain at home very long." **Restive or Restless**
43. With quiet precision, the thief \_\_\_\_\_ the pouch, placed most of its contents in a briefcase and walked confidently out of the embassy. **Riffled or Rifled**
44. "There's an evil on these seas that even the most \_\_\_\_\_ and bloodthirsty pirates have come to fear." **Stanch or Staunch**
45. "I'd walk through hell in a gasoline \_\_\_\_\_ to play baseball." **Suit or Suite**
46. "The Viper, to me, is the quintessential American muscle car--brute power, great looks and about as much \_\_\_\_\_ as a grunge band crashing a cotillion." **Tack or Tact**