

# Malapropisms



Mrs Malaprop is a character in a play by R. B. Sheridan. She often gets her words mixed up, using a word that sounds almost, but not quite, like the correct one. For instance, she says the word **allegory** when she means to say **alligator**!

Look up the word **allegory** in the dictionary, then explain the obvious difference between **allegory** and **alligator**.

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Here are some **malapropisms** for you to correct – draw a circle around the word that is used incorrectly, then rewrite the sentence using the correct word.

There are three angels in a triangle.

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We decided to sign the partition.

.....

I am pleased to except this prize.

.....

The brakes on a bike work by fraction.

.....

The jugular prepared to pounce.

.....

Now find the meanings of the words you circled, and write them here.

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**Answers may vary**

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There are three angels in a triangle.

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We decided to sign the partition.

We decided to sign the petition.  
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I am pleased to except this prize.

I am pleased to accept this prize.  
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The brakes on a bike work by fraction.

The brakes on a bike work by friction.  
.....

The jugular prepared to pounce.

The jaguar prepared to pounce.  
.....

Now find the meanings of the words you circled, and write them here.

.....  
.....  
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**Answers may vary**

These exercises provide practice with words that sound similar but are spelled differently. Again, it may be helpful for your child to use a dictionary to check the spellings or meanings of words. Remember to praise correct answers.