

Name: _____

Commonly Confused Words: Vain vs. Vein vs. Vane

Vain, vein and vane sound alike, but their meanings are different.

Vain is an adjective meaning without a result or being overly proud of one's appearance.

Example 1: They watched the dog's **vain** attempts to jump the fence.

Example 2: The **vain** man combed his hair twelve times a day.

Vein is usually a noun meaning a blood vessel, a deposit of minerals or an attitude.

Example 1: The **vein** pulsed on her temple.

Example 2: They found a **vein** of gold.

Example 3: The speaker took a lighter **vein** and told a joke.

Vane is a noun meaning either an instrument used to detect wind direction (often called a weather vane) or the flat blades of a weather vane.

Example 1: The **vane** moved on top of the roof as the wind shifted.



Choose *vain, vein* or *vane* to complete each sentence.

1. She hoped in _____ that the ambulance would arrive in time.
2. The broken _____ lay on the ground after the tornado.
3. The meeting went into a more serious _____ after the president spoke.
4. A _____ carries blood to the heart for oxygen.
5. As the storm came in, the _____ turned circles on the roof.
6. The explorer found a coal _____ in the hill.
7. Is it _____ to look in a mirror all the time?
8. When Charles fell he cut a _____ in his leg.
9. We found an old _____ in the attic.
10. All his lessons would not be in _____ if he could win the match.

Name: _____ **Key**

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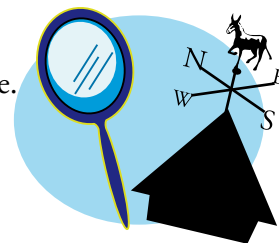
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