

What do you need to know?

In **Jumbled Word** questions you need to rearrange a group of mixed up letters to make a real, correctly spelt word.

Jumbled words are **mixed up letters**: you can rearrange these letters to make a real word.

TGAO → GOAT
Jumbled word → Real word

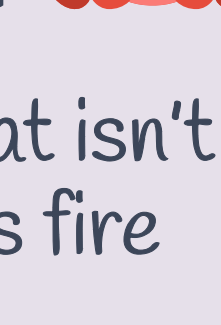
The jumbled word may be placed within a **sentence**.

The firefighter climbed up the RALDDE to rescue the cat.
↓
LADDER

Or you may be given a **clue** to help you work out what the jumbled word is.

NINIWGN
Clue: coming first in a race
↓
WINNING

Some questions may give you a **picture**.

RGADON 
Clue: an animal that isn't real and breathes fire
↓
DRAGON

Key Skills:

There are some key skills that you will need to work out the words:

Vocabulary	Recognise words and understand their meaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Read lots of books! In fact, read everything with text on it! ★ Use a dictionary to check the meaning of words that you don't know.
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Spelling	Spell words accurately and recognise incorrect spellings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Set yourself a weekly spelling test. ★ Make a note of homonyms and homographs when you're reading.
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Building and visualising words	Make words using groups of letters and see what they look like	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Use magnetic letters to write on your fridge! ★ Make your own word search. ★ Play word games like Scrabble, hangman or Boggle.
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Approach:

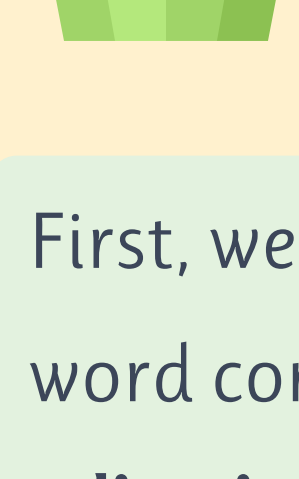
When you are trying to unscramble a jumbled word, you can follow some simple steps to work out the correct answer:

- 1- **Read** the sentence or clue carefully. Doing this will help you work out what topic the word might be about, and help you think of some possible words that fit.
- 2- Use the sentence or clue to try and work out the **word class**. Is the jumbled word a noun, verb, adverb or adjective?
- 3- Look for **familiar letter strings** related to the words class ('-ed', '-ing', '-ful') within the jumbled word.
- 4- **Count the letters** to check that you haven't missed or repeated any.
- 5- Check that you've made a **correctly spelt word!**

A **'letter string'** is a group of two or more letters that appear together in a word.

Let's see this in action!

Rearrange the capital letters in the sentence into a new word.



In the LPFUACEE garden, everything was calm and quiet.



First, we need to read through the sentence and check for any clues. The jumbled word comes between the article 'the' and the noun 'garden', so it must be an **adjective**. We also know that we need an adjective that can describe a garden; we know that the meaning of the adjective may be linked to 'quiet' or 'calm' - everything in the garden is!

The **'mood'** of a sentence is the way it makes the reader feel. For example, this sentence has a relaxed mood.

Adjectives often end a **suffix**, for example '-ous' or '-ful'. The jumbled word contains the letters 'LFU' which can be rearranged to make 'FUL'.

LPFUACEE

You may think of 'beautiful' as it is an adjective that ends in 'ful' and can describe a garden, but we don't have the right letters to make it. We need to look back at the jumbled word and check which letters are left.

We're left with the letters P, A, C, E, E: we can rearrange these letters to make 'PEACE'. If we add this to '-FUL' we make 'PEACEFUL'. Now we have to do our final check: 'peaceful' has 8 letters and they are exactly the same as those in the jumbled word.

LPFUACEE
↓
PEACEFUL

So we have managed to unscramble the jumbled word to complete the sentence:

In the PEACEFUL garden, everything was calm and quiet.



Let's take a look at different example...

Using the clue to help you, write the word that can be made by rearranging the capitals.



EFRUES

Clue: unwanted items that are put in a bin

We start by reading the **clue**. This will help us work out the **word class** of the word we are trying to find. It mentions 'items', so the word must be a **noun**. Items that are put in a bin could be 'waste' or 'rubbish'.

Next, we need to look for familiar letter strings. The letters may make you think of the word 'rubbish' as the jumbled word contains an 'R' and a 'U'.

EFRUES

But there is no 'I', 'S' or 'H' to make 'ish'. So the word cannot be 'rubbish'!

The word does contain 'UES', which can be rearranged to make 'USE'. 'Refuse' is a word beginning with 'R' that ends in 'USE'.

We often pronounce this word as 'ri-fuse' meaning 'to not be willing to do something' - 'I refuse to do my homework.' But this meaning doesn't fit with the clue and 'refuse' is a verb!

However, 'refuse' is a **homograph** and can also be pronounced as 'ref-use'. When it is pronounced like this it is a noun which means 'things that are thrown away'. So the noun 'refuse' is a synonym of 'rubbish': it fits with the clue and the picture!

'Synonyms' are words that have the **same** meaning, for example: **end - finish - complete - conclude**.

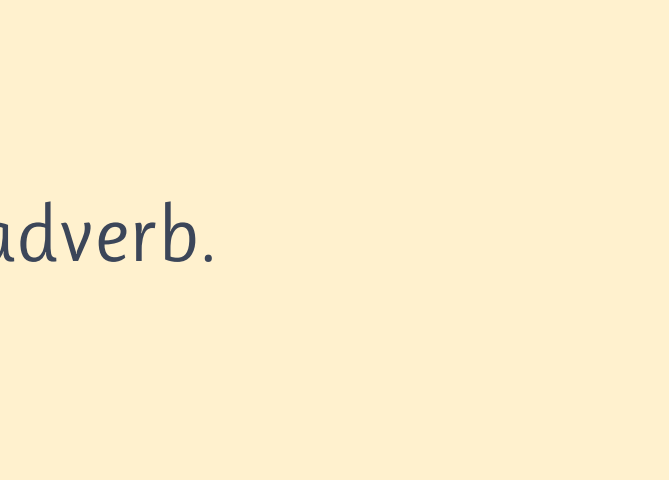
Lastly, let's check that 'refuse' has the correct number of letters (6), and the same letters as the jumbled word.

EFRUES
↓
REFUSE

Watch out!

Watch out for **homographs** or **homonyms**.

Homographs are words that are **spelt the same** but sound different and have different meanings.



You may think of one meaning of the word that doesn't fit with the clue. So check that the word cannot be pronounced another way, or that it doesn't have another meaning. The word may still be the correct answer!

Tips!

- ★ Use the **sentence, clue** or **picture** to help.
- ★ Work out the **word class** of the word: verb, noun, adjective or adverb.
- ★ Look for familiar **letter strings**.
- ★ **Count** the number of letters and check that **exactly the same** letters have been used. You can cross off the letters once you've used them in the new word.
- ★ Make sure that the unscrambled word is **spelt correctly**.