

HOW TO SPELL THE MISSPELLED? AN EMPHASIS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SPELLING

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Spelling, as one of the most important skills that young children should master, seems to be less valued nowadays. With the emergence of technology and various devices such as mobile phones, tablets, and computers, checking one's spelling seems easy. So easy, in fact, that much of the time, as we converse with others, we take shortcuts in typing or writing our messages and even neglect to check the spelling of some words because of the available spell checkers online.

In the past, teachers performed activities to teach spelling. Such enhancements included spelling drills using spelling booklets, vocabulary word hunts, word banks, and other exercises done daily. The objective of these activities was to improve students' spelling and help them learn new words.

Sadly, there are recurring notions that spelling should not be a focus since it allegedly hinders students' creativity in writing. Some also insist that spelling comes naturally as one reads. Yet, according to reading specialist Susan Jones, "Spelling can and should be an integral part of language instruction for every student," as it assists the learners to solidify the relationship between phonics and letters. Mastering complex sight words enhances both literacies, reading and writing. Spelling is an important competence that one should be literate of, though there are readily available spell checkers online, still this skill should be taught and nourish.

Spelling is a vital skill and is important for cognitive development, creative expression, and literacy. Inadequate knowledge on how to spell words greatly affects our

daily communication, as to, how we understand messages and how to express our thoughts or perceptions. With the mastery of learning how to spell correctly brings clarity to the conversations.

But learning how to spell should be done with reinforcements and constant practice. The utilization and integration of spelling drills prior to teaching the lessons are deemed to be effective in achieving spelling literacy. In addition, the spelling activities mentioned above should be continuously employed by teachers up to this date to enhance the skills of their students in spelling. Furthermore, parents should continue to encourage their children to engage in spelling activities so that this essential skills of them will not be lost nor forgotten in this digital era.

References:

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