

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.

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I am pleased to except this prize.

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The brakes on a bike work by fraction.

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The jugular prepared to pounce.

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

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Answers may vary

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.

There are three angles in a triangle.

We decided to sign the (partition).

We decided to sign the petition.

I am pleased to (except) this prize.

I am pleased to accept this prize.

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.