# Dr. Funster's WORD BENDERS ${ }^{\text {m }}$ A1 



# Thinking and Vocabulary Fun 

Titles in this series
Word Benders A1
Word Benders B1
Word Benders C1

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## About Dr. Funster's WORD BENDERS ${ }^{\text {ma }}$

The Word Benders series promotes vocabulary acquisition, spelling skills, and deductive reasoning ability. Word Benders are letter systems in which some letters must change and others must remain the same. As students follow these rules, new words emerge. Students may use clues from the Definitions Box to decide the correct letter change or to verify the meaning of an unknown word formed by following the letter pattern. This gamelike format encourages students to recognize and change word roots, prefixes, and suffixes to create new words.

The activities in this series are perfect for school, home, and travel. They are very popular as brain-start, extra credit, sponge, or reward activities, and will improve academic performance and raise test-taking ability for students at all grade levels.

## Dr. Funster's Series Titles

Think-A-Minutes A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2<br>Word Benders A1, B1, C1<br>Visual Mind Benders A1, B1, C1<br>Creative Thinking Puzzlers A1, B1, C1<br>Quick Thinks Math A1, B1, C1

## WORDS AND PHRASES

In these exercises, you will fill in the missing letters in a series of word groups. In each word, write the letters from the word above on the lines. Only the letter that goes in the empty circle will be changed or added to form a new word. The phrase provides you with a clue to help you figure out the new word. Have fun and learn some new words.

Here is an example:

## том C A T



The answers are:
том $\mathbf{C} \quad \mathbf{A} \mathbf{T}$
(F) A I CHANCE
$\begin{array}{rl}\text { LONG AGO AND } F & A \quad R \text { AWAY } \\ E & A \quad R \quad A C H E\end{array}$

## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
1.
sall B O A T



2.

S A I L boat



## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.


## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
4.


FIRE

shady (L) A N E

## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
5. POP C $\mathbf{~} \quad \mathrm{N}$ APPLE _-_


(B)(B) A D modutrer

## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
6.
meat L O A F

$-\bigcirc$-_ MEAT

$\ldots \ldots$ ___ AND POTATOES

TAKE A


CHRISTMAS


GOOD


MOTHER



takethe H E A T

## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
7.
pieceof C A K E


A ___ ___ EXCUSE






## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
8.

Quick S T A R T


## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
9.
$R \quad \mathbf{A} \quad \mathbf{N}$ coat

__ _ _ ROAD
$\bigcirc$ - THE LETTER


Nк (S) (T) A I N


## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
10.
go C A R T


## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
11.

FOR $\overline{\mathbf{S}} \overline{\mathbf{H}} \overline{\mathbf{A}} \overline{\mathrm{L}} \overline{\mathrm{E}}$ stone


100 DEGREES IN THE






## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
12.
hat R A C K


AROUND THE
______ O_ OF EXPERIENCE
_ - THE DOOR
$\ldots \ldots$ ___ ___ THAT KICK

$\begin{array}{llll} & - & - & \underbrace{\text { TRACK }} \\ \text { HAT } & - & - & - \\ \text { FULL } & \text { B } \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{K}\end{array}$

## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
13.

F A C thenation



## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
14.
hammerand $\mathbf{N} \mathbf{A}$ I L
 FREIGHT $O$ CAFETERIA

## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.


FIRST NATIONAL



## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
16. four onthe $\mathbf{F} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{O} \mathbf{~}$


## WORDS AND PHRASES

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
17.

B O U N D and gagged


## OPPOSITES OR DIFFERENT

The next group of exercises involves groups of words in which the answer is either the opposite of the clue or distinctly different from the word clue. The rest of the rules stay the same. Change only the letters that fit in the circles.

For example:


The answers are HAT, CAT, CAN.
HOT and COLD are opposite, but HAT and CAP are similar yet distinctly different. CAT and KITTEN are similar but definitely different. CAN and BOTTLE are both containers but are made of different materials.

## OPPOSITES OR DIFFERENT

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.

## 18.

T O P воттом

$\bigcirc$-_ NOT HAT


## OPPOSITES OR DIFFERENT

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
19.

L O V E hate

-_ D-_DEATH

$\ldots$ _- RIGHT
$\ldots$ - CELLAR
$\bigcirc \ldots$ _- HARD

(B) A T E R floor support

## OPPOSITES OR DIFFERENT

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
20.


## OPPOSITES OR DIFFERENT

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following phrases by changing or adding only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same.
21.


## SIMILARITIES

In these next exercises, you will learn to complete a word series. Each word in a series is like the one before it in many ways and different from the one before it in some ways.

For example, in the series:

each word has four letters and only one letter is changed. Since only one letter can be different, the remaining letters are clues to help you find the new word.

The Word Bender looks like this (the circles indicate the letter to be changed):

F A R M


Below the Word Bender is a Definitions Box with words and short phrases which give the meanings of the new words being formed. The Definitions Box can be used, if needed, for clues and should be used to check your answers.

## DEFINITIONS BOX

a food-growing business; the cost of a ticket; an angel's stringed instrument; a rabbit

The answers are:


## SIMILARITIES

DIRECTIONS: Change or add only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same. The words and phrases in the Definitions Box give the meanings of the words being formed (not in order).
22.

H A T


## DEFINITIONS BOX

anger; brave; burn with steam; cap; for your own $\qquad$ ; garden tool; hairless; price; sell yesterday; shoe bottom; special price; talk

## SIMILARITIES

Change only the letters in the circles at each step in this word series.


## Note to the Student:

This short exercise illustrates how you can use your knowledge of the exercise rules to learn new words. INCREDIBLE means hard to believe or unbelievable. The opposite of incredible would be believable, and if you work from the bottom up, you notice that all the letters in word three are the same as the corresponding letters in the fourth row. This means the third line must be CREDIBLE. Get the idea?

## SIMILARITIES

DIRECTIONS: Change or add only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same. The words and phrases in the Definitions Box give the meanings of the words being formed (not in order).
23.

## A C T I O N



## DEFINITIONS BOX

book of words and definitions; make-believe story; movement; police headquarters; produces heat; sculpture; speech; stays in place; three-fourths is a $\qquad$ ; writing paper

## SIMILARITIES

DIRECTIONS: Change or add only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same. The words and phrases in the Definitions Box give the meanings of the words being formed (not in order).
24.

H O L E








## DEFINITIONS BOX

beautiful; cavity; complete; frank; healthful; nominee; sell a large amount; solitary; touch; wax light

## SIMILARITIES

DIRECTIONS: Change or add only the letters that go in the circles. The rest of the word stays the same. The words and phrases in the Definitions Box give the meanings of the words being formed (not in order).
25.

N A T I O N


(B)(1)(N)S T ATE

## DEFINITIONS BOX

country; logical; part of a country; property; public; restore to a former position; say again; share; terminal; worldwide

1. SAIL BOAT

RAIN COAT
CHAR COAL
FIELD GOAL
MOUNTAIN GOAT
2. SAIL BOAT

MAIL A LETTER
HOUSE MAID
LAID AN EGG
PAID THE BILL
SEVERE PAIN
3. ARM WRESTLE

FARM HAND
WARM AS TOAST
NO HARM DONE
ANGEL'S HARP
SHARP KNIFE
SHARE YOUR BOOK
OUT OF SHAPE SHAM ROCK
HAM AND EGGS
4. READING LAMP

HOSE CLAMP
LEG CRAMP
EXIT RAMP
DARK AND DAMP
CAMP FIRE
THEY CAME HOME
COME TO SCHOOL
ICE CREAM CONE
WALKING CANE
SHADY LANE
5. POP CORN

APPLE CORE
CARE TAKER
hare or Rabbit
AREA AND VOLUME
READ THE PAPER
READY, SET, GO
STEADY AS SHE GOES
HEAD PHONES
LEAD THE WAY
BREAD AND BUTTER
6. MEAT LOAF

LOAN MONEY
LEAN MEAT
MEAN DOG
MEAT AND POTATOES
TAKE A SEAT

CHRISTMAS SEAL
GOOD DEAL
MOTHER DEAR
FEAR NOT
HEAR ME OUT
tAKE THE HEAT
7. PIECE OF CAKE FAKE NOSE
SNOW FLAKE
FIRE AND FLAME
A LAME EXCUSE
HALL OF FAME
IT'S A KID'S GAME
HOME RUN
FIRE HOSE
NOSE GUARD
BIRD'S NEST
TAKE A REST
YOU'RE THE BEST
BENT FENDER
8. QUICK START

STARRY NIGHT
FISH STORY
GROCERY STORE
ROLLING STONE
SOUR TONE
HAM BONE
SAVINGS BOND
MARCHING BAND
LaND OF THE FREE
SHADY LANE
LAKE SHORE
MAKE BELIEVE
SHIP MATE
9. RAIN COAT

DRAIN PIPE
TRAIN STATION
MOUNTAIN TRAIL
RAIL ROAD
MAIL THE LETTER
MAIN IDEA
INK STAIN
SPIRAL STAIR CASE
EASY CHAIR
IRON CHAIN
CAR CHASE
HASTY REPLY
FASTEN YOUR BELT
10. GO CART

CARD TRICK

HARD TO DO
HERD OF CATTLE
RIGHT HERE
THERE SHE BLOWS
SOME OF THESE DAYS
THESIS SENTENCE
FIND THEM
WRITE A THEME
WILD SCHEME
11. FOR SHAME

SHALE STONE
SHAPE UP
100 DEGREES IN THE SHADE
ACE OF SPADES
PANES OF GLASS
WALL PANEL
BRIDGE SPAN
ASPEN TREE
NEW ASPECT
MURDER SUSPECT
RESPECT ONE ANOTHER
EXPECT THE BEST
12. HAT RACK

HARD AS A ROCK
AROUND THE CLOCK
BLACK AS COAL
LACK OF EXPERIENCE
LOCK THE DOOR
BLOCK THAT KICK
GOLD BRICK
BRACE YOURSELF
RACE TRACK
HAT RACK
FULL BACK
13. FACE THE NATION

LACE CURTAINS
FIRST PLACE
FLAT PLANE
PLANET EARTH
CRANE HOIST
CRANK THE HANDLE
FRANK ENSTEIN
HIGHEST RANK
FRANCE AND GERMANY
DANCE THE TANGO
CATTLE RANCH
BRANCH OFFICE
14. HAMMER AND NAIL

FAIL TO WIN
SAIL BOAT
RAIL ROAD

RAIN COAT
FREIGHT TRAIN
OREGON TRAIL
CAFETERIA TRAY
PRAY FOR HELP
PLAY BALL
CLAY POTTERY
SLAY THE DRAGON
COLE SLAW
BEAR CLAW
CLAP YOUR HANDS
CLAM SHELL
15. INKING PEN

SINKING SHIP
BLINKING LIGHT
DRINKING CUP
THINKING CAP
BE THANKFUL FOR YOUR BLESSINGS
TANKFUL OF GAS
TANKARD OF CIDER
FIRST NATIONAL BANK
BUNK BED
DUNK ADONUT
SITTING DUCK
SUCH NERVE
HARD HAT
VEGETABLE GARDEN
16. FOUR ON THE FLOOR

FLOOD LIGHT
ROOT BEER FLOAT
GLOAT OVER
OLD GLORY
SECOND STORY
STORE HOUSE
STONE WALL
PHONE CALL
PHONY EXCUSE
SWEETAS HONEY
PAPER MONEY FRENCH ARTIST MONET
17. BOUND AND GAGGED

LOST AND FOUND
ROUND TABLE
BUS ROUTE
SHOUT IT OUT
SHOVE OFF
WOOD STOVE
BARREL STAVE
PAVED ROAD
SAVED BY THE BELL CLOSE SHAVE
TO HAVE AND TO HOLD I GAVE AT THE OFFICE

WAVE GOODBY
CAVE IN
BIRTHDAY CAKE
18. TOP BOTTOM

TAP DANCE NOT TOE DANCE
CAP NOT HAT
CUP NOT SAUCER
CUT NOT PASTE
NUT NOT BOLT
PUT NOT TAKE
POT NOT PAN
DOT NOT BIG CIRCLE
COT NOT BED
COP NOT ROBBER
19. LOVE HATE

LIVE DIE
LIFE DEATH
LIFT LOWER
LEFT RIGHT
LOFT CELLAR
SOFT HARD
OFTEN SELDOM
AFTER BEFORE
RAFTER FLOOR SUPPORT
20. OLD NEW

COLD HOT
BOLD SHY
HOLD DROP
HOLE FULL
POLE STUMP
PALE TANNED
SALE OVERPRICED
SAME DIFFERENT
TAME WILD
FAME UNKNOWN
CAME WENT
COME GO
HOME AWAY
21. NEAR FAR

HEAR DEAF
HEAT COLD
NEAT SLOPPY
MEAT VEGETABLES
MEAN NICE
LEAN FAT
LEAST MOST
EAST WEST
FAST SLOW
LAST FIRST
LOST FOUND
MOST LEAST
MUST CAN'T

RUSTY SHINY
RISKY SAFE
DIRTY CLEAN
HEARTY WEAK
22. HAT (cap)

CHAT (talk)
HATE (anger)
RATE (price)
RAKE (garden tool)
SAKE (for your own)
SALE (special price)
SOLE (shoe bottom)
SOLD (sell yesterday)
BOLD (brave)
BALD (hairless)
SCALD (burn with steam)
EXAMPLE
EDIT (revise)
CREDIT (trust)
CREDIBLE (believable)
INCREDIBLE (unbelievable)
23. ACTION (movement)

FRACTION (three-fourths)
FRICTION (produces heat)
FICTION (make-believe story)
DICTION (speech)
DICTIONARY (book of words)
STATIONARY (stays in place)
STATION (police headquarters)
STATIONERY (writing paper)
STATUE (sculpture)
24. HOLE (cavity)

WHOLE (complete)
WHOLESALE (sell large amount)
WHOLESOME (healthful)
LONESOME (solitary)
HANDSOME (beautiful)
HANDLE (touch)
CANDLE (wax light)
CANDID (frank)
CANDIDATE (nominee)
25. NATION (country)

RATION (share)
RATIONAL (logical)
NATIONAL (public)
INTERNATIONAL (worldwide)
STATION (terminal)
STATE (part of a country)
ESTATE (property)
RESTATE (say again)
REINSTATE (restore to a former position)

