

SPaG - Spotlight on Spelling

The 2025 SATs SPaG and spelling papers will take place on Monday 12th May.

It will involve a written element, the English grammar and punctuation paper, which will last for 45 minutes. Within the written paper, there are a number of questions focusing on vocabulary and spellings. On average, 5 out of the 50 questions will focus on spelling.

There will then be a 20-word aural spelling test which should last around 20 minutes. Pupils will write the spellings in the provided booklet.

These questions focus on prefixes, suffixes and word families.

Below are some example questions on each topic.

The written paper is marked out of 50 and the spelling test is marked out of 20. These scores are then combined to give a total score. Spelling therefore contributes to a large percentage of the marks (approximately 35%) so practising spelling rules in the months leading up to the SATS is very important.

Prefixes: a letter or group of letters that are added before the root word to make a new word

Add a **prefix** to the word charge in the sentence below to show that the waiter did not charge too much.

The waiter was careful not to _____ charge the customer.

What does the **prefix** multi- mean in the words multicultural, multipurpose and multicoloured?

Tick **one**.

some

few

all

many

Add a different **prefix** to each word to form its **antonym**.

_____ honest

_____ separable

_____ noticeable

Suffixes: a letter or group of letters, for example '-ly' or '-ness', which is added to the end of a word in order to form a different word

Complete the sentence by writing a word formed from the root word music on each line.

Every member of the Jones family was _____,

but only Mr Jones was a professional _____.

Complete each sentence below with a word formed from the root word act.

Jack always knew he would be an _____.

Alissa couldn't sit still as she liked being _____.

Word families: Word families are words that are related to each other in a combination of having the same word root (with prefixes, suffixes or other words added to make new words).

What does the root struct mean in the word family below?

destruction structure reconstruct

Tick one.

break

build

carry

touch

What does the root graph mean in the word family below?

graphics autograph photography paragraph

Tick one.

moving pictures

writing or drawing

colourful or bright

in a group

