

THE FLATMATES

Quiz:

Silent letters



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LEARNING ENGLISH



BBC Learning English – The Flatmates

The Flatmates – Quiz – Silent letters

You can try the quiz online at:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/flatmates/episode53/quiz.shtml>

Choose the correct numbers of silent letters and identify the words with silent letters in each of the following six sentences.

1. On Wednesday night Sarah visited us.
 - a) 1
 - b) 2
 - c) 3
 - d) 4

2. Drivers are reminded to switch off their engine as vehicle exhaust may harm foot passengers on this ferry.
 - a) 2
 - b) 3
 - c) 4
 - d) 5

3. After they exhumed the body, the detectives were sure he'd been murdered.
 - a) 0
 - b) 1
 - c) 2
 - d) 3

4. I've no doubt you'll see some fantastic cheetahs in the African savannah when you go there next month.
 - a) 0
 - b) 1
 - c) 2
 - d) 3

5. Damn! I've just slammed my thumb in the door!
 - a) 1
 - b) 2
 - c) 3
 - d) 4

6. I saw that handsome plumber on the bus again yesterday. I tried to be subtle, so I'm sure he didn't know I was looking at him.
 - a) 1
 - b) 2
 - c) 3
 - d) 4

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Answers

1. On Wednesday night Sarah visited us.
 - a) 1 - Wrong – there's more than 1 silent letter in the sentence.
 - b) 2 - Correct – We(d)nesday and Sara(h).**
 - c) 3 - Wrong – there are fewer than 3 silent letters in the sentence.
 - d) 4 - Wrong – there are fewer than 4 silent letters in the sentence.

2. Drivers are reminded to switch off their engine as vehicle exhaust may harm foot passengers on this ferry.
 - a) 2 - Correct – ve(h)icle and ex(h)aust.**
 - c) 3 – Wrong - there are fewer than 3 silent letters in the sentence.
 - d) 4 - Wrong – there are fewer than 4 silent letters in the sentence.
 - e) 5 – Wrong – there are fewer than 5 silent letters in the sentence.

3. After they exhumed the body, the detectives were sure he'd been murdered.
 - a) 0 - Correct – the 'h' in exhumed is pronounced.**
 - b) 1 - Wrong – the 'h' in exhumed is pronounced.
 - c) 2 - Wrong – the 'h' in exhumed is pronounced. There are fewer than 2 silent letters in the sentence.
 - d) 3 - Wrong – the 'h' in exhumed is pronounced. There are fewer than 3 silent letters in the sentence.

4. I've no doubt you'll see some fantastic cheetahs in the African savannah when you go there next month.
 - a) 0 – Wrong – there are some silent letters in the sentence.
 - b) 1 - Wrong – there's more than 1 silent letter in the sentence.
 - c) 2 – Wrong - there are more than 2 silent letters in the sentence.
 - d) 3 - Correct – dou(b)t, cheetah(h)s and savanna(h)s.**

5. Damn! I've just slammed my thumb in the door!
 - a) 1 - Wrong - there's more than 1 silent letter in the sentence.
 - b) 2 - Correct – dam(n) and thum(b).**
 - c) 3 - Wrong – there are fewer than 3 silent letters in the sentence.
 - d) 4 - Wrong – there are fewer than 4 silent letters in the sentence.

6. I saw that handsome plumber on the bus again yesterday. I tried to be subtle, so I'm sure he didn't know I was looking at him.
 - a) 1 – Wrong - there's more than 1 silent letter in the sentence.
 - b) 2 - Wrong - there are more than 2 silent letters in the sentence.
 - c) 3 - Wrong - there are more than 3 silent letters in the sentence.
 - d) 4 - Correct – han(d)some, plum(b)er, su(b)tle and (k)now.**

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Would you like to look at the language point that this quiz was based on? Go to:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/flatmates/episode53/languagepoint.shtml>

Or you can download the language point from:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/flatmates/episode53/languagepoint.pdf>

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