

Silent letters odd one out game

Listen to your partner or teacher read out three words and repeat back the one which is different, explaining why it's different if you can. If you are not sure which one is different, just guess. There are many different reasons, but they are all connected to silent letters:

Circle the one odd one out in each group below, then check as a class.

Try to find patterns in the examples about which letters are silent and why (because of their position, combinations with other letters, etc).

Play the same spotting the odd one out game in groups, taking turns reading out the examples. Make sure that you don't pronounce the silent letters when it's your turn to read them out.

Underline the silent letter in each word below and then try to think of one more example that has the same silent letter, if possible for the same reason.

artistically

plumber/ debt

acquit/ miscellaneous

campaign

vehicle/ ghastly/ heirloom/ rhino/ when

kneel

condemn

psychiatrist

ironing

aisle

Christmas/ chalet/ castle/ moisten

guarantee

wrestle

Check below, brainstorm or search for more, then compare your other ideas as a class.

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aqua	acquire	acquit		
aquarium	acquaintance	aqueduct		
aisle	1'11	isle		
artistically	physically	softly		
answer	sword	sweet		
ascend	assessment	asset		
ballet	cadet	bidet		
build	bimbo	bingo		
blister	Christmas	twister		
bomber	lumber	plumber		
broom	tomb	womb		
buffet	café	resumé		
cabaret	chalet	minaret		
campaign	complain	champagne		
castle	hassle	whistle		
climber	combed	member		
column	condemn	random		
come	dumb	glum		
cyclone	psychiatrist	psychology		
debt	don't	doubt		
diehard	vehicle	yoghurt		
exhausted	exhibition	exile		
fasten	moisten	tungsten		
ghastly	garden	ghost		
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guardian	guarantee	guava
heir	heirloom	heritage
honest	honour	onwards
hustle	measles	wrestle
iron	ironic	ironing
knee	kneel	neat
knife	knitting	nibble
knock	know	now
lamb	lemon	limb
lessen	listen	loosen
logically	totally	usually
misc.	miscellaneous	musk
misc. muscle	miscellaneous scissors	musk skipping
muscle	scissors	skipping
muscle musically	scissors quickly	skipping slowly
muscle musically neutral	scissors quickly pneumatic	skipping slowly pneumonia
muscle musically neutral rain	scissors quickly pneumatic rhino	skipping slowly pneumonia rhyme
muscle musically neutral rain receipt	scissors quickly pneumatic rhino receptionist	skipping slowly pneumonia rhyme reception
muscle musically neutral rain receipt sachet	scissors quickly pneumatic rhino receptionist sherbet	skipping slowly pneumonia rhyme reception sorbet
muscle musically neutral rain receipt sachet scene	scissors quickly pneumatic rhino receptionist sherbet scent	skipping slowly pneumonia rhyme reception sorbet sceptic



Suggested answers aqua acquire acquit			
aquarium	acquaintance	aqueduct	
aisle	1'11	isle	
artistically	physically	softly	
answer	sword	sweet	
ascend	assessment	asset	
ballet	cadet	bidet	
build	bimbo	bingo	
blister	Christmas	twister	
bomber	lumber	plumber	
broom	tomb	womb	
buffet	café	resumé	
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come	dumb	glum	
cyclone	psychiatrist	psychology	
debt	don't	doubt	
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exhausted	exhibition	exile	
fasten	moisten	tungsten	

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ghastly	garden	ghost
guardian	guarantee	guava
heir	heirloom	heritage
honest	honour	onwards
hustle	measles	wrestle
iron	ironic	ironing
knee	kneel	neat
knife	knitting	nibble
knock	know	now
lamb	lemon	limb
lessen	listen	loosen
logically	totally	usually
misc.	miscellaneous	musk
muscle	scissors	skipping
musically	quickly	slowly
neutral	pneumatic	pneumonia
rain	rhino	rhyme
receipt	receptionist	reception
sachet	sherbet	sorbet
scene	scent	sceptic
when	where	who
wrap	rep	wrong
rope	wrestle	wrist