Spell It Straight

Spot standard spellings and spelling errors.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.11-12.2b "Spell correctly."

NAME _____ DATE _____

STANDARD SPELLING

A standard spelling matches the form listed in a reliable dictionary. Check every letter, including doubled letters.

existence

SPELLING ERROR

A spelling error has a letter that is added, missing, or changed from the standard form.

existance

1 SORT

8 items

Read each word and circle STANDARD or ERROR.

1.	accommodate	STANDARD	ERROR
2.	conscientious	STANDARD	ERROR
3.	occurrance	STANDARD	ERROR
4.	indispensable	STANDARD	ERROR
5.	concensus	STANDARD	ERROR
6.	embarass	STANDARD	ERROR
7.	supersede	STANDARD	ERROR
8.	priviledge	STANDARD	ERROR

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new STANDARD word and one new ERROR word.

STANDARD _____

ERROR _____

CHALLENGE

Create a believable spelling error for a correctly spelled word that is not on this page. Write both versions and identify the added, missing, or changed letter.

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PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	accommodate	**STANDARD**	This is the standard spelling, with double c and double m.
2	conscientious	**STANDARD**	This is the standard spelling.
3	occurrance	**ERROR**	The standard spelling is occurrence, with e after rr.
4	indispensable	**STANDARD**	This is the standard spelling.
5	concensus	**ERROR**	The standard spelling is consensus, with s after con.
6	embarass	**ERROR**	The standard spelling is embarrass, with double r and double s.
7	supersede	**STANDARD**	This is the standard spelling.
8	priviledge	**ERROR**	The standard spelling is privilege, without d.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **STANDARD**: parallel
- **ERROR**: seperate

Challenge: necessary → neccessary; the error has an extra c.

For Part 2, students should cite exact letters, such as occurrence has e after rr, while embarass is missing an r. For Part 3 and the challenge, accept any unambiguous standard spelling and a clearly identified nonstandard alteration.