

The following words are often confused.

**1. The war had a dramatic ..... on oil prices.**

effect  
affect

Effect is a noun. Affect is a verb.

**2. Did the war ..... oil prices?**

effect  
affect

Affect is the verb; effect is a noun.

**3. Travel can be an excellent ..... to one's education.**

compliment  
complement

If something complements, it completes.

**4. The hostess received glowing ..... on the dinner.**

complements  
compliments

A compliment is an expression of praise.

**5. I made ..... inquiries about his credit rating.**

discrete  
discreet

Discreet means cautious, judicious; discrete means separate or distinct.

**6. Churchill was one of the world's most ..... statesmen.**

imminent  
eminent

Eminent means illustrious.

**7. A storm is .....**

eminent  
imminent

Imminent means about to happen.

**8. Writing ad copy was a ..... of her creative talent.**

disuse  
misuse

Misuse means wrong use.

**9. Parts of the document are faded and .....**

illegible  
eligible

Illegible means unreadable.

**10. Mirrors give an ..... of more space in a room.**

illusion  
allusion

Illusion means misleading visual impression.

**11. The teacher made an ..... to Shakespeare.**

illusion  
allusion

An allusion is a reference. An illusion is a false impression.

**12. The student did ..... research research before writing the term paper.**

exhaustive  
exhausting

Exhaustive means comprehensive. If something is exhausting, it is tiring.

PLAY AGAIN !

Answers

1. The war had a dramatic **effect** on oil prices.
2. Did the war **affect** oil prices?
3. Travel can be an excellent **complement** to one's education.
4. The hostess received glowing **compliments** on the dinner.
5. I made **discreet** inquiries about his credit rating.
6. Churchill was one of the world's most **eminent** statesmen.
7. A storm is **imminent**.
8. Writing ad copy was a **misuse** of her creative talent.
9. Parts of the document are faded and **illegible**.
10. Mirrors give an **illusion** of more space in a room.
11. The teacher made an **allusion** to Shakespeare.
12. The student did **exhaustive** research research before writing the term paper.