There are some words which can cause confusion in meaning if we are not careful about their spelling because they can be confused for another word which is very similar in spelling.

Here are some commonly confused verbs

- die / dying / died
- dye / dyeing / dyed
- hop / hopping / hopped
- hope / hoping / hoped
- mop / mopping / mopped
- mope / moping / moped
- scrap / scraping / scraped
- lie (recline) / lying / laid or lain
- lie (tell a lie) / lying / lied

Complete the following sentences.

1. The rabbit ................................ across the field.

hopped
hoped
Spelling Exercise

2. I was ......................... that you could lend me a pound.

hoping
hopping

3. She ....................... the skirt to match her blouse.

died
dyed

4. The poor woman is .........................

dying
dyeing

5. The rough surface of the floor made ......................... difficult.

mopping
moping
6. I slipped and ......................... an elbow.
scrapped
scraped

7. The witness ......................... to the jury.
lied
laid

8. The king ............................ now in his final resting place.
lays
lies

9. I ......................... down on the couch yesterday.
lie
lay

10. Please ............................... the plate down now.
11. The tiles were ................................ in a geometric pattern.

12. It is a mistake to ................................ too much emphasis on grades.

Answers
1. The rabbit hopped across the field.
2. I was hoping that you could lend me a pound.
3. She dyed the skirt to match her blouse.
4. The poor woman is dying.
5. The rough surface of the floor made mopping difficult.
6. I slipped and scraped an elbow.
7. The witness lied to the jury.
8. The king lies now in his final resting place.
9. I lay down on the couch yesterday.
10. Please lay the plate down now.
11. The tiles were laid in a geometric pattern.
12. It is a mistake to lay too much emphasis on grades.