WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL
SPELLING & USAGE LIST 2022-2023

To communicate effectively, proper spelling and correct usage of words are important. The following lists of words are those you are expected to know by middle school at Wilson. **The spelling list is divided into columns**: all grades (6th, 7th, & 8th) are responsible for the first two columns; in addition, seventh and eighth <u>only</u> are responsible for the middle two columns; and eighth grade <u>only</u> is responsible for the last two columns.
All grade levels are responsible for <u>all</u> usage words (front and back).

These words may also be tested throughout the year.

Spelling (by grade level)

6th, 7th, & 8th Graders		7th & 8th Graders Only		8th Graders Only	
achieve / achievement	certain / certainly	efficiency / efficient	friend / friendly / friendship	opportunity	sentence
(all days of the week and all months of the year)	character / characterize/ characterization	eight / eighth	grammar	planning	separate
a lot	college	embarrass / embarrassment	grateful	probably	similar / similarity
always	conclusion	environment	hypothesis	quote / quotation	specific / specifically
appreciate / appreciation	decide / decision / decisive	especially / special	immediate / immediately	realize / realization	succeed / success
article	definite / definitely	exercise	intelligence / intelligent	really	suppose / supposed to
author	describe / description	experience	interest / interesting	reason	surprise / surprising
beginning	dialogue	experiment	knowledge	receipt / receive / receiver	truly
beautiful / beauty	different / difference	extremely	language	recommend / recommendation	until
because	disappear / disappearance	field	literary / literature	remember	used to
belief / believe	disappoint / disappointment	finally	necessary	research	usually
business	doesn't	foreign	opinion	restaurant	writing

Usage (<u>all</u> grade levels)

accept   (I *accept* responsibility for turning this assignment in late.) – used as a verb
except   (I have homework in every subject *except* math.) – used as a preposition

affect   (How does reading *affect* a student's vocabulary?) – usually used as a verb
effect   (Studying has a good *effect* on a student's vocabulary.) – used as a noun

aloud   (To her teacher's dismay, she shouted the answer *aloud*). – used as an adjective
allowed   (I am not *allowed* to spend the night at a friend's on a school night.) – used as a verb

are   (When *are* our test results going to come back?) – used as a verb
our   (When are *our* test results going to come back?) – used as a pronoun

could/should/would have (I *could have* gone to the dance but decided to stay home instead.) - **not** "could *of*" etc.

coarse   (The sand paper I used had a *coarse* texture.) – used as an adjective
course   (Of *course* I'll share my elective sheet with you. Which *course* are you going to take?) – used as a noun

feel   (Tell me how you *feel* about this book.)
fell   (The rain *fell* from the sky.)

hear   (Can you *hear* the teacher?) – used as a verb
here   ("I would like you to sit *here*," the teacher said.) – used as an adverb indicating where

hole   (You have a *hole* in your paper.) – used as a noun
whole   (Don't eat the *whole* cake at one sitting.) – usually used as an adjective

knew   (I *knew* you would make an A on the test.) – used as a verb
new   (Having *new* school supplies is a wonderful feeling.) – used as an adjective

know   (I *know* all my multiplication tables.) – used as a verb
no   (I have *no* homework tonight.) – used as an adjective or an introductory word

it's   (*It's* a fact that studying improves a student's grades.) – used as a contraction meaning "it is"
its   (The club was interesting for *its* members.) – used to show possession

loose   (The door was coming *loose* on its hinges.) – used as an adjective (spelled like "moose")
lose   (Nobody likes to *lose*, but it's sportsmanship that matters.) – used as a verb

passed (The whole class *passed* the test.) – used as a verb
past   (Many *past* Wilson students attend our basketball games.) – usually used as an adjective or adverb

peace   (After the events of 9/11, many people were focused on restoring *peace*.) – used as a noun
piece   (I wanted to have another *piece* of that delicious pie.) – used as a noun

quiet   (The students were *quiet* during silent sustained reading.) – used as an adjective
quite   (It makes *quite* a difference when students come to class prepared.) – used as an adverb

right   (Your paper has all the *right* answers.) – usually used as an adjective
write   (Wilson students love to *write* reading responses.) – used as a verb

sense   (Use your common *sense* to figure it out. Touch is one of the five *senses*.) – used as a noun
since   (They left town and haven't been here *since*. I've known her *since* childhood. He hasn't been home *since* he graduated.) - used as an adverb, preposition, and conjunction

than   (He would rather eat pizza *than* his sandwich.) – used for comparison
then   (The student was told to sweep the floor, *then* mop it.) – used to indicate time

their (The students left *their* book bags in *their* lockers.) – used as a pronoun to show possession
there (*There* are many things a student can do to be successful in school.) – used as an adverb
they're (*They're* going to work on their projects this weekend.) – used as a contraction meaning "they are"

threw (The pitcher *threw* a no-hitter last night.) – used as a verb
through (Don't walk *through* the rain on the way to school.) – used as a preposition indicating where

throw (Please *throw* your trash away.) – used as a verb
thorough (Please do a *thorough* job on your book reports.) – used as an adjective

to   (The student made it *to* his locker before the tardy bell.) – used as a preposition
too   (The boy would like to be included *too*.) – used to mean "also"
two   (She had to write *two* written responses to the novel.) – used as a numeral

weather (The *weather* outside is perfect for a trip to Nature's Classroom.) – used as a noun
whether (He wasn't sure *whether* to type his report or turn it in handwritten.) – used as a conjunction

wait (You must *wait* for your turn. Sometimes it is a long *wait*.) – used first as a verb, then as a noun
weight (Sometimes I feel as if the *weight* of the world were on my shoulders.) – used as a noun

which   (The girl wasn't sure *which* path to take. *Which* of these would you take?) – used first as an adjective, then a pronoun
witch   (The *witch* in the picture was wearing all black.) – used as a noun

your (It's *your* turn to do the problem in math.) – used to show possession
you're (I am so happy that *you're* my partner.) – used as a contraction meaning "you are"

wear (The dress code sometimes limits you in what you can *wear*.) – used as a verb
were (The principal said we *were* talking too loudly in the hall.) – used as a verb (plural past tense of "to be")
where (We'll meet at the fountain *where* our parents can pick us up. *Where* is that?) – used as a conjunction, then an adverb