

ReadingHorizons
ELEVATE®

Student Packet

Exceptions to Murmur Diphthongs

Name: _____

Welcome to the *Reading Horizons Elevate*® Weekly Student Packet!

Each packet contains the following items:

- Practice pages for each skill lesson from the *Reading Horizons Elevate*® Student Book
- Transfer Cards
- Passages with comprehension questions from the *Reading Horizons Elevate*® Reading Library

Some packets will also include practice pages for Most Common Words lessons.

Student Book Practice Pages

Each practice page begins with a brief review of the associated skill or list of Most Common Words. Students may need the support of a fluent reader to read the skill review and the instructions for each activity.

Most Common Words are words that appear so frequently in writing that students need to know them by sight. Until these words become a regular part of the student's vocabulary, the student may require more support from a fluent reader while completing these practice pages.

Transfer Cards

Transfer Cards were designed to be fully decodable, meaning that the student should have learned all the necessary skills to read these independently. These cards provide valuable practice using the skills taught in the program.

Reading Library Passages and Comprehension Questions

Reading Library passages are designed to give students practice reading a variety of nonfiction texts. Each packet will include at least two passages of varying difficulty. Students will benefit from additional support from a fluent reader while working through these passages.

Happy Reading!

The Reading Horizons Team

For more information, contact your instructor at _____.

Exceptions to Murmur Diphthongs

Skills Review

- There are some exceptions to Murmur Diphthongs. Each exception will be reviewed below.

DECODING

Exceptions 1 and 2

When silent *e* comes right after a Murmur Diphthong, the silent *e* will rule (the vowel will be long). When an adjacent vowel comes right before the Murmur Diphthong, the adjacent vowel will rule (the vowel will be long). Mark the words according to Phonetic Skill 4 and Phonetic Skill 5. (Do not mark the Murmur Diphthong in the word because it does not make a Murmur Diphthong sound.)

cāre *fēar*

A silent *e* at the end of a Murmur Diphthong word will not change the sound of the Murmur Diphthong if there is a consonant between the Murmur Diphthong and silent *e* (*nurse*).

nurse *horse*

When *c* or *g* follows a Murmur Diphthong, you will still mark it as a bridge.

farce *surge*

A. Prove these words.

fire *large* *force* *curve* *clear*

Exception 3

When *ea* comes before *r* and another consonant, the *r* changes the sound to /er/. Mark the *a* silent and put an arc under the *ear*.

learn

B. Prove these words.

heard *early*

Exception 4 (“Exceptional W”)

When *a* follows *w*, the vowel changes to the short *o* sound. Mark a small *o* with the short vowel mark above the *a* to show the sound. When *ar* follows *w*, it will have the sound of /or/. Put a small *or* above the *ar*. When *or* follows *w*, it will have the sound of /er/. Put a small *er* above the *or*. Because *qu* has the *w* sound, the same vowel sound changes will apply.

want *warm* *work* *quad* *squat*

Exceptions to Murmur Diphthongs

C. Prove these words.

wand warp world

Exception 5

Sometimes, *ar* and *er* sound like the word “air.” Some words end in *-ary* and *-ery*. The ending *-ary* has the sound /air-y/. Words that end in *-ery* have the sound /air-y/ or /er-y/.

To prove words that have *-ary* and *-ery* endings, mark the Murmur Diphthong and the *y*. If it has the sound /air-y/, put a little “air” above the Murmur Diphthong, and put a long e above the *y*.

library

ferry

D. Prove these words.

berry parent

Exception 6

Sometimes, *or* and *ar* in unstressed syllables have the sound /er/. Put a small *er* above the Murmur Diphthong to help you remember how to pronounce it.

flavor

doctor

E. Prove these words.

favor major

READING

Read the magazine article. Notice the words that are **Exceptions to Murmur Diphthongs**.



This was by far the worst forest fire Marge had ever seen! She had been a nurse in the military and was now doing some charity work at the fire camp. She did whatever she could to help, which included serving the firefighters their meals.

A large squad of firefighters wandered into the tent for something to eat. Marge knew they would need lots of water to drink in addition to the huge quantity of hot waffles the cook had made, and she hurried to serve them. They ate as if they were about to starve!

Marge listened as they spoke. She heard them say that there was some fear that their workforce was too small. They decided to warn their director of the need to hire more firefighters.

Exceptions to Murmur Diphthongs

APPLICATION ACTIVITIES

A. Use the magazine article on the previous page for the following activities:

- 1) Circle the exceptions where silent *e* or adjacent vowels are overriding the Murmur Diphthong.
- 2) Put a box around those words that follow Exception 4 – “Exceptional W”.

B. Choose the word from the box that best completes the sentence.

warn	doctor	score
ferry	early	inherit
library	carve	bribery

1. Alvaro decided to go to sleep _____ since he didn't feel well.
2. Carla took a _____ across the harbor.
3. He went to the _____ when he felt sick.
4. She likes to study at the _____ where it's quiet.
5. The policeman tried to _____ the students about the dangers of drinking and driving.
6. At the skating competition, the judges were looking for the highest _____ to award the first place trophy.
7. The couple decided to _____ their initials into the tree.

C. **Circle** the word that follows the exception.

- | | | |
|---|--------|-------|
| 1. Exception 1 (silent <i>e</i>) | farm | fire |
| 2. Exception 2 (adjacent vowel) | fair | fern |
| 3. Exception 3 (<i>ear</i> sounds like /er/) | fear | learn |
| 4. Exception 4 (“Exceptional W”) | warm | went |
| 5. Exception 5 (<i>er</i> or <i>ar</i> sounds like /air/) | merry | mart |
| 6. Exception 6 (<i>or</i> or <i>ar</i> sounds like /er/ in an unstressed syllable) | flavor | horn |

Exceptions to Murmur Diphthongs

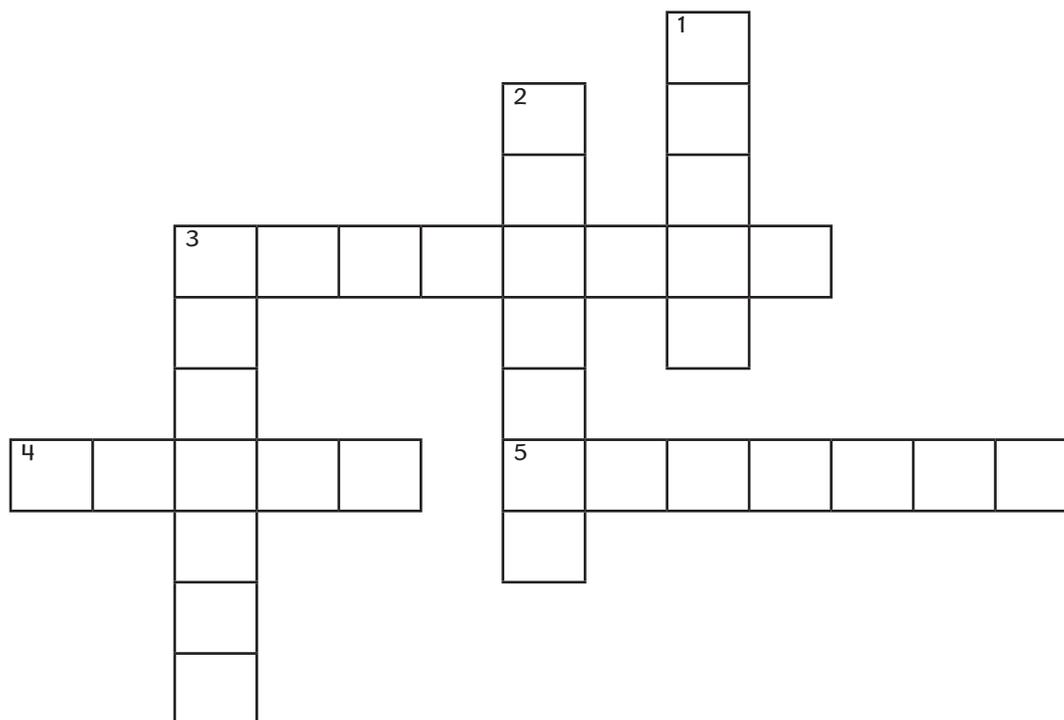
D. Add the suffixes to the words. Remember to drop the *e* before adding the suffix. Then complete the crossword puzzle.

Across

- 3. splurge + ed = _____
- 4. fire + ed = _____
- 5. nurse + ing = _____

Down

- 1. wire + ed = _____
- 2. merge + ing = _____
- 3. stare + ing = _____



E. Draw a line from a word on the left to a word on the right to create a compound word that contains a Murmur Diphthong.

- | | |
|----------|------|
| 1. post | corn |
| 2. home | port |
| 3. air | card |
| 4. pop | line |
| 5. under | work |



Fire Walking

Some people like to walk on hot **coals** or rocks. This is called *fire walking*. These coals can get to be very hot. They can be as hot as 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit (540 degrees Celsius). The path of coals is often in the shape of a rectangle. It may be 10 feet (three meters) long. That's a long walk for such a task!

You may wonder why a person would want to do this. Some do it to show their courage. Others want to do something exciting. They do it because it is fun, too.

Many cultures do fire walking. In India, it is done for religious reasons. Some groups in the Pacific Islands walk on fire to share their people's history. Fire walking has also been practiced by cultures in the Americas, Europe, and Africa.

Fire walkers do not wear shoes. They walk on the coals in their bare feet! You might wonder still why their feet are not burned. Is it some sort of trick?

For one thing, there is a lot of ash on the coals. The coals are red hot, but the ash helps to protect the feet. Second, the fire walkers move fast. If they were to stop and stand on the coals, they would be burned. If they were to fall down, they could be seriously injured. Third, the coals burn for a while so that they are dry. Wet coals hold more heat than dry ones do.

Most often, fire walking is done at night. Why? Because fire walking looks better in the dark. In the daytime, the bed of coals would look like a bed of ashes. At night, though, the coals give off a glowing red color through the ash.

If you want to try fire walking, know that it can be done. But it can be dangerous! Please be careful.



hobbies, culture

Lexile®: 500L

Word Count: 310

Time: _____

Fire Walking

Comprehension Questions

Circle the best answer.

1. The main purpose of this passage is to
 - a. explain what fire walking is.
 - b. advertise a fire walking event.
 - c. tell about a famous fire walker.

2. One reason for fire walking is to
 - a. improve running speed.
 - b. show a person's courage.
 - c. be punished for mistakes.

3. Feet are protected during fire walking because of
 - a. ash.
 - b. shoes.
 - c. water.

4. The most popular time to do fire walking is
 - a. at night.
 - b. in the morning.
 - c. in the afternoon.

5. *Coals* (paragraph 1) are a type of
 - a. rock.
 - b. person.
 - c. religion.

Mount Fuji

One of the most prominent symbols of Japan is Mount Fuji. The image is unmistakable: a tall volcano with almost symmetrical, sloping sides that form a wide base. This mountain has held an important place in the culture, art, and history of Japan.

Mount Fuji, at 12,388 feet (3,776 meters) in height, is the tallest mountain in Japan. It is just west of the capital city of Tokyo and is near other important regions of Japan. The mountain can be seen from many parts of Japan, including the large cities of Tokyo and Yokohama. Because of the height of the mountain, the top is covered in snow for a large portion of the year. Five lakes circle Mount Fuji. These lakes, along with the famous mountain and some other nearby land, **comprise** (or make up) a national park.

Mount Fuji has held a prominent place in Japan's culture and history for centuries. In fact, the very top (or summit) of Fuji has been considered a sacred site since ancient times. According to records, in 663 AD a Japanese monk was the first person to climb to the mountain's summit. Women were not allowed to climb to the summit until the late 19th century.

The first recorded climb to the summit of Mount Fuji by a non-Japanese person was completed by Sir Rutherford Alcock of Great Britain. He climbed the mountain in 1860 while serving as a British ambassador to Japan. He later wrote about his experience on the mountain in his book titled *The Capital of the Tycoon*. This book was the first time that much of the world outside Japan learned about Mount Fuji. Seven years later, Lady Fanny Parkes was the first non-Japanese woman to climb to the top of Mount Fuji. She was the wife of another British ambassador to Japan.

Nowadays, Mount Fuji is an internationally popular destination, to which thousands of tourists travel every year. Many people go to the mountain to climb it. Others visit to simply enjoy the unique Japanese culture in the small cities that surround the mountain. A large percentage of the visitors to Mount Fuji are able to climb the mountain using trails that are well established.

The Japanese government, recognizing the potential of Mount Fuji as a tourist destination, completed several projects to make climbing the mountain easier. They created switchbacks all the way to the top so that climbers do not have to try to go straight up the mountain. A switchback is a trail that moves back and forth up the side of a mountain, slowly rising higher with each movement. The government also constructed several roads so that cars and tourist buses can carry visitors to the fifth station, a trailhead or starting place. From the fifth station to the summit, there are four hiking paths.

Continued on the next page.



nature, Asia, landmarks

*Lexile®: 1080L
Word Count: 753*

Time: _____

Mount Fuji (continued)

One of the most popular areas for tourists has small hotels where people can spend the night, as well as a large parking lot and easy access to trails to the summit. Along the trails, both from the base of the mountain to the stations and from the stations to the mountain's summit, there are many historical sites. Shrines, temples, and teahouses are located along the slopes of Mount Fuji so that tourists can stop and experience the unique culture surrounding the mountain. Given the beauty of the mountain, combined with the many local facilities, it is no wonder that Mount Fuji continues to be so popular.

Mount Fuji is, in fact, considered an active volcano. However, scientists state that the current risk of eruption is low. The last recorded eruption was in 1707. Scientists continue to monitor, or watch, the volcano, and a warning system is in place to ensure that people are evacuated from the area in the event of an eruption. The mountain's volcanic nature is actually a benefit to locals and tourists. The area has numerous hot springs, pools of water that are naturally warmed by heat from the volcano. People enjoy relaxing in these hot springs.

Numerous Japanese poems and paintings celebrate the beauty of the mountain. The famous Japanese artist Hokusai created 36 illustrations that show Mount Fuji from different positions and at different times of the year. These works of art were created in the early 1800s and proved so popular that Hokusai created additional illustrations of the mountain. It is through Hokusai's art, and the work of other talented artists, that much of the world remembers the remarkable beauty of one of Japan's natural wonders.

Mount Fuji

Comprehension Questions

Circle the best answer.

1. This passage is mostly about
 - a. a Japanese nature poem.
 - b. a volcanic mountain in Japan.
 - c. a famous painting from Japan.
 - d. an old Japanese hotel and resort.
2. An appropriate alternative title for this passage is
 - a. Great Artists in Japan Today.
 - b. An International Symbol of Japan.
 - c. The History of the Japanese Government.
 - d. Interesting Cities to See When Visiting Japan.
3. The capital city of Japan is
 - a. Tokyo.
 - b. Osaka.
 - c. Fujiyama.
 - d. Yokohama.
4. The reported first person to climb Mount Fuji was
 - a. a Japanese monk.
 - b. a British explorer.
 - c. a British princess.
 - d. a Japanese ambassador.
5. Switchbacks are designed to
 - a. protect famous art.
 - b. make hiking easier.
 - c. keep people warm at night.
 - d. collect money from tourists.
6. The passage suggests that the weather at the top of Mount Fuji
 - a. remains cold almost all year long.
 - b. is the nicest of any place in Japan.
 - c. is dangerously hot due to the volcano.
 - d. only has wind for two days each year.
7. We can infer that the trails on Mount Fuji can
 - a. become very crowded.
 - b. be covered with wild dogs.
 - c. only be used during the night.
 - d. be dangerous in the summertime.
8. The author mentions *The Capital of the Tycoon* (paragraph 4) to
 - a. share some Japanese poetry about Mount Fuji.
 - b. describe a war that was fought near Mount Fuji.
 - c. show the importance of Mount Fuji in business.
 - d. explain how foreigners learned about Mount Fuji.
9. The author mentions Hokusai (paragraph 9) to
 - a. recommend the Mount Fuji hot springs.
 - b. explain Mount Fuji's volcanic history.
 - c. highlight Mount Fuji's role in art.
 - d. describe the towns near Mount Fuji.
10. To *comprise* (paragraph 2) means to
 - a. see.
 - b. form.
 - c. visit.
 - d. climb.

Most Common Words List 17

Skills Review

- Most Common Words are words that are used often when reading and sometimes do not follow phonetic skills.

Most Common Words List 17

life always those both paper together got group
often run important until children side feet

- A. One of the words in each set is a Most Common Word, and the other is a scramble. **Circle** the Most Common Word.

Example: tefe feet

- | | | | | | |
|----------|-------|---------------|-----------|--------------|----------|
| 1. prout | group | 6. together | thergot | 11. waysla | always |
| 2. tholb | both | 7. teef | feet | 12. litun | until |
| 3. nefto | often | 8. got | toge | 13. those | hoset |
| 4. side | desie | 9. life | flien | 14. children | lichnerd |
| 5. run | nurt | 10. protantim | important | 15. repape | paper |

- B. Read the story. **Circle** the Most Common Words from List 17. Words can be used more than once.

When we were children, a group of friends and I would often run side-by-side until our feet were sore. Together, we made a great team. We always got awards from our physical education teachers, though those awards were only made of paper. My best friend and I both stopped running in high school. I still don't know why I chose to do that. Running was an important part of my life. Maybe I'll start again.

Most Common Words List 17

C. Answer the questions about the story above.

1. At what age did the author and friends begin running?

2. What felt sore when they ran for too long?

3. How did the narrator feel about running?

4. What were the awards made out of?

5. Out of the group of friends who ran, who stopped?

Most Common Words List 17

life always those both paper
together got group often run
important until children side feet

The children did an important group paper together. Ammar always feared those kind of projects until he got to work with both his favorite classmates.

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Most Common Words List 17

children run got important paper
group feet side together often
until those always both life

It would not be fair to say I always run on the weekend, but I often run on the weekend. When life has me feeling stressed, I lace up both my sneakers, put my worries aside, and get on my feet.

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Most Common Words List 17

feet often children until those
both run group important paper
got side together life always

A paper clip will hold both those papers together until you can get a stapler. I just got a box of paper clips! You are always free to use my supplies. I buy them for the group to share.

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Most Common Words List 17

got group always both important
run until life side feet
paper children those often together

At school today, the children learned that a group of animals is often called by a different name. For example, those cows are called a herd when they are together. The kids got to pick an animal group to write a paper about.

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Most Common Words List 17

until those paper group life
run side both feet often
together children always got important

I often hear the sound of children's feet running near the east side of my house. The sound of those kids will always be a part of my life until I decide to move, since I live next to a school.

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Most Common Words List 17

run those paper got often
until always both side children
important feet group life together

I always approach big life problems by making lists with the important things first. I think of the good and bad side to both thoughts. My lists often run to the other side of my paper.

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Most Common Words List 17

side feet run important children
life group paper always until
got together those both often

We got the children together last year to raise cash for an important charity. We did a fun run on the west side of the park. We got on our feet to help others. It was a great life lesson.

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Most Common Words List 17

group important always often together
until both those run paper
got feet side children life

Those roses didn't start to thrive until I made the important call to move them to the other side of the house. That spot is a few feet bigger, and they always get plenty of sunlight. I often stop to smell them now.

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