



# STAREWAY TO SPELLING®

## Diagnostic Test

The sentences below contain a selection of the 300 most used words. The tutor should dictate them for students to write on the form below. They have been carefully constructed with repetition of those words which commonly cause the most problems.

### Instructions for dictation:-

1. Tutors should tell students when capital letters, full stops and question marks are necessary.
2. Students should not dwell too long over the words. If they feel at all unsure, they should simply write the word 'as it sounds' and move on to the next one.
3. Dictate the sentences at the same speed that your student writes. Repeating them as and when necessary.

How do we learn to read and spell? It seems that some people do not have to try very hard. They could read and spell many of our words before they went off to school even if they did not work at home with their mother and father. When they look at a word, they can read it and also picture it so that when there was a need to write it down, they could do so. These people know that each word looks right.

For others, it is different. If they try to write a sentence, they know that we do not spell every word, the way that it sounds. "You should know it by now!" they hear, but they don't.

Where to begin? Why does who sound like through? What on earth is the answer?

It should be thought through once again but why would anyone want to? For example, think of important words like mountain, country, saw, while, colour and enough. Those are only a few examples, there are many more. You might know them at first but only until another day. Who are these people? They might have great new ideas which others may use but do not know the words we use most of all. But their work is important.

Who said 'Together we can learn'? They were right. Now it is your turn. Watch us and listen as we use this book to learn to write and spell because it has almost all you will need.

## STUDENT DICTATION SHEET

Student name:.....

Date of birth:.....

Name of tutor: .....

Test date before Stareway to Spelling:.....

Test date after Stareway to Spelling: .....

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### Number of errors:

If your student struggles to spell these words then we highly recommend following Stareway to Spelling.