

# Mind Twisters

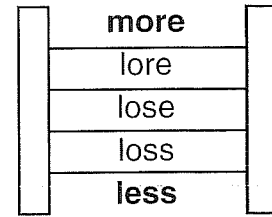
## Packet #1

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

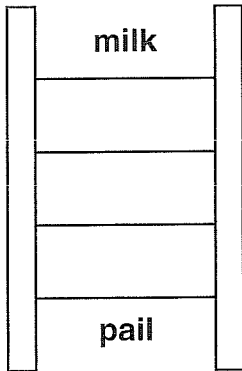


# Word Ladders

Transform one word into another by changing a single letter in each step so that each link in the chain is a valid word. For example, see the example to right for how to change **more** into **less**. *Hint:* use the hints to help you.

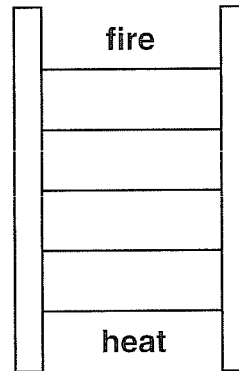


1. Turn **milk** into **pail**.



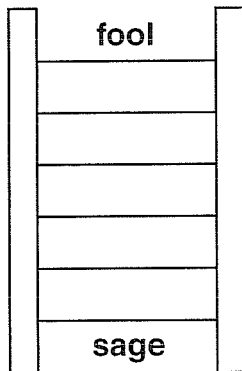
- Hint:* another word for "grind"
- Hint:* you can shop here
- Hint:* way to send a letter

2. Turn **fire** into **heat**.



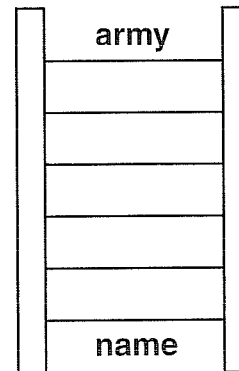
- Hint:* employ at a job
- Hint:* not "there"
- Hint:* group of cows
- Hint:* brain casing

3. Turn **fool** into **sage**.



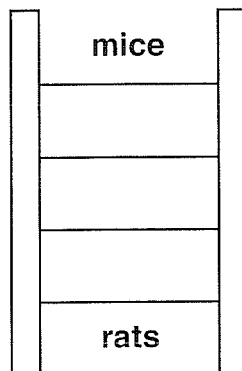
- Hint:* place to swim
- Hint:* political survey
- Hint:* long metal object
- Hint:* not tan
- Hint:* leaf in a book

4. Turn **army** into **name**.



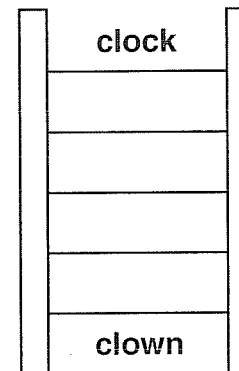
- Hint:* not legs, but . . .
- Hint:* goals
- Hint:* fades
- Hint:* they block up rivers
- Hint:* slang term for a woman

5. Turn **mice** into **rats**.



- Hint:* another word for a bug
- Hint:* your good friend
- Hint:* you wipe your feet on them

6. Turn **clock** into **clown**.



- Hint:* container for butter
- Hint:* a thief
- Hint:* to sing
- Hint:* royalty's headgear



# Double Letters Make States

Answer each clue with the name of a state that contains double letters.

1. The home of country music is in this Southern state.

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2. This Keystone State is home to the Pocono Mountains.

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3. Springfield is this Midwestern state's capital.

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4. This Western state entered statehood in 1959.

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5. The Long Island Sound borders this Eastern state.

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6. The Twin Cities are here, as well as are many lakes.

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7. This state is famous for prairies and for Kansas City.

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8. The Boston Marathon is held here annually.

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9. The Chippewa word for "big river" gave this Southern state its name.

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# Brothers and Sisters

Use the work areas below to diagram your answers to these questions.

1. Jerry has two siblings, and at least one of them is a girl. What are the odds that Jerry has two sisters?

**Work Area**

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Now suppose Jerry has two siblings, and the older one is a boy. What are the odds that Jerry has two brothers?

**Work Area**

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_



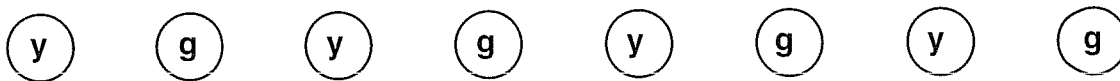
# Alternating Gumdrops

This mind twister can also be completed with stamps, coins, beads, etc.

Find four green gumdrops and four yellow gumdrops. Place them in a row like this:



Now, following the rules below, try and reformat them so that they look like this:



## Rules

1. You may only make four moves.
2. You may move only pairs of neighboring gumdrops together as a set.
3. The gumdrops in any pair you move can't swap places.
4. Move pairs only to the end or to blank spots in the row.
5. You must finish with no blank spaces between gumdrops.

Show your work below:

1st Move: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

2nd Move: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

3rd Move: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

4th Move: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○



# Scrambled Inventions

Some inventions make life much easier or more enjoyable. Unscramble the inventions below. The first one has been done for you.

1. ricelect rixem \_\_\_\_\_ electric mixer
2. singhaw hamnice \_\_\_\_\_
3. pretmuco \_\_\_\_\_
4. umcavu nelrace \_\_\_\_\_
5. procemosci \_\_\_\_\_
6. torclalacu \_\_\_\_\_
7. speetcole \_\_\_\_\_
8. anearlip \_\_\_\_\_
9. hitlg lubb \_\_\_\_\_
10. cawirevom \_\_\_\_\_
11. yicbelc \_\_\_\_\_
12. prizep \_\_\_\_\_
13. quagluna \_\_\_\_\_
14. erppa plic \_\_\_\_\_
15. wifeskorr \_\_\_\_\_
16. greatfireror \_\_\_\_\_
17. treethomrem \_\_\_\_\_
18. trybeat \_\_\_\_\_
19. blebub mug \_\_\_\_\_
20. lateracso \_\_\_\_\_



# Amazing Anagrams

The two blank spots in each sentence need to be replaced by words. The missing words are *anagrams*. This means that one word can be formed by rearranging the letters of the other. The blanks in each sentence indicate the number of letters in each word. Fill in the missing words. The first one has been done for you.

1. They grew l i m e trees on a m i l e of their property.
2. The man ran at a steady \_\_\_\_\_ even though he was wearing a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Although she said it wasn't a big \_\_\_\_\_, Gloria was thrilled to have the \_\_\_\_\_ in the theatrical production.
4. With the \_\_\_\_\_ he stole from the safe, he bought a new \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The dancer swinging the \_\_\_\_\_ has a bad case of \_\_\_\_\_ on her face.
6. Shakespeare was an English \_\_\_\_\_ who most likely didn't wear \_\_\_\_\_ clothing.
7. The fangs on the \_\_\_\_\_ rattlesnake looked so \_\_\_\_\_ that the fearful man ran away.
8. The gift is so small that it \_\_\_\_\_ in his \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The chef composed a fruit salad of \_\_\_\_\_, apples, and sweetened \_\_\_\_\_.
10. All her \_\_\_\_\_, she wanted a fingernail \_\_\_\_\_.
11. Will you \_\_\_\_\_ over this book as you swing from this \_\_\_\_\_?
12. She was eating a \_\_\_\_\_ cookie when the \_\_\_\_\_ approached her stealthily.



# Terrific Transportation

Decide which transportation method or gear would work best for you in the following situations and write them in the spaces below:

1. You want to swim through the coral reefs and photograph tropical fish.

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2. You'd like to see Earth from outer space.

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3. You want to see many small towns in the United States without having to drive.

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4. You need to get from New York to London quickly.

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5. You'd like to get an up-close look at whales and dolphins.

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6. You need to go down to the corner store for milk.

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7. You've got to get 10 miles across town, but your car is in the shop.

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8. You need to rescue someone trapped on a steep mountainside.

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9. You want to head downhill on a snowy mountainside.

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10. You want to see your house clearly from the sky.

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