

Is everything in order?

Challenge 1

1. Can you see what is special about the letters of the word **begin**?

The letters are in alphabetical order:

a **b** c d **e** f **g** h **i** j k l m **n** o p q r s t u v w x y z

If you rearrange the following groups of letters into alphabetical order, they will each spell an English word. Work out the words and write them in an alphabetical list.

tonk

steb

nich

thogs

potad

ceptac

.....

2. In a dictionary the headwords are the words you look up. Headwords are listed in alphabetical order to make them easy to find. When words start with the same letter, they are listed in order of the second letter. If words start with the same two letters, they are listed in order of the third letter, and so on.

Sort these sets of words into the order in which you would find them in a dictionary. Check the *Oxford School Dictionary* afterwards to see if you got the correct order.

a) motion

mystery

meeting

mutiny

maximum

.....

b) slow

slender

sleepy

slippery

slack

.....

c) these

theirs

they

them

then

.....

3. The following words appear between the guide words *poach* and *poise*. Put them into alphabetical order, and then check your *Oxford School Dictionary* to see if you are right.

point, pocket, pointed, pogrom, podium, pockmark, point-blank, poise, pod, poignant, podgy, poetry, point of view, pointless

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