

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Commonly Confused Words: Decent vs. Descent vs. Dissent

*Decent*, *descent*, and *dissent* sound a little alike, but their meanings are different.

*Decent* is an adjective meaning proper, polite or modest.

Example 1: He asked for a **decent** burial.

Example 2: The poor girl wore a **decent** dress to school.

*Descent* is a noun meaning the way down or passage down.

Example 1: The plane made its **descent** to the runway.

Example 2: He is a person of Irish **descent**.

*Dissent* may be a verb or noun. When it is a verb, it means to not agree.

As a noun it means a different opinion.

Example 1: Phillip will **dissent** when they vote.

Example 2: The **dissent** of the citizens must be recognized.



Choose *decent*, *descent* or *dissent* to complete each sentence.

1. It was a long \_\_\_\_\_ from the top of the mountain.
2. The justice will \_\_\_\_\_ on the ruling.
3. The young mother needed a \_\_\_\_\_ night's sleep.
4. The runner was in \_\_\_\_\_ shape for the race.
5. There will be no \_\_\_\_\_ to the action of the committee.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ into the cave made Edward tremble with fear.
7. Any \_\_\_\_\_ person would know to say thank you.
8. Religious \_\_\_\_\_ was common during the Reformation.
9. The ancestors of those of Italian \_\_\_\_\_ mostly came to America in the early 20th century.
10. The worker found a \_\_\_\_\_ job at the factory.

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