

# Word Ladder

Solutions with Word Definitions

Puzzle 0445: Change from **WHEAT** to **MAIZE** in 19 steps or less.

	W	H	E	A	T	
1.	W	H	E	A	L	Any of the cereal plants on the genus <i>Triticum spelta</i> or its grain; corn (UK).
2.	S	H	E	A	L	A small swelling or raised lesion on the skin; a round welt.
3.	S	H	E	L	L	A shieling; summer pasture; shepherds' summer encampment or hut.
4.	S	P	E	L	L	Hard outer covering, casing or carapace; explosive munition; to bombard with shells.
5.	S	P	I	L	L	To enunciate the letters of words; a cantrip or charm; a period of activity; a splinter.
6.	S	P	I	L	E	Cause liquid to overflow or escape; escape of contents; a taper; a spile.
7.	S	P	I	T	E	A thin tapered wooden bung; a spigot or tap.
8.	S	P	I	T	S	Hatred or malevolence; to treat maliciously; to offend.
9.	S	P	O	T	S	3rd p. sing. of <i>spit</i> , eject saliva or sputum from mouth. Plural of <i>spit</i> , long thin rod.
10.	S	O	O	T	S	Plural of <i>spot</i> , small area of different appearance, or place; 3rd p. sing. of <i>spot</i> , see.
11.	B	O	O	T	S	Plural of <i>soot</i> , substance produced by fire, 3rd p. sing. of <i>soot</i> , to cover in soot.
12.	B	O	L	T	S	Plural of <i>boot</i> , a heavy closed shoe; 3rd p. sing. of <i>boot</i> , to kick, to dismiss (colloq.).
13.	B	A	L	T	S	Plural of <i>bolt</i> , a metal part used to fasten or lock; 3rd p. sing. of <i>bolt</i> , fasten, flee.
14.	B	A	L	L	S	Plural of <i>balt</i> , a person of descent from one of the nations around the Baltic Sea.
15.	B	A	I	L	S	Plural of <i>ball</i> , a rounded object used in games, or a dinner-dance.
16.	M	A	I	L	S	Plural of <i>bail</i> , a bar, e.g. on a wicket; 3rd p. sing. of <i>bail</i> , to pay surety for a person.
17.	M	A	I	N	S	3rd p. sing. of <i>mail</i> , to send through a postal service.
18.	M	A	I	N	E	Networked utility supply, usually electricity; the principal savoury course of a meal.
19.	M	A	I	Z	E	US state in New England; river in France, tributary of the Loire.
						Cereal crop, <i>zea mays</i> ; corn (US).

Puzzle 0446: Turn a **BRUSH** into a **BROOM** in 11 steps or less.

	B	R	U	S	H	
1.	C	R	U	S	H	A tool with many bristles or fibres used to clean, apply a coating or disentangle.
2.	C	R	A	S	H	To squash, compact or break by applying pressure; to defeat easily.
3.	C	R	A	S	S	A destructive collision; a catastrophic failure.
4.	B	R	A	S	S	Obviously stupid or inconsiderate.
5.	B	R	A	N	S	An alloy of copper and zinc.
6.	B	R	A	N	D	Plural of <i>bran</i> , powder made from the outer layer of cereal grain.
7.	B	L	A	N	D	An identifiable product or product family; an identification mark applied by heat.
8.	B	L	O	N	D	Lacking distinctive characteristics or taste; dull; uninteresting.
9.	B	L	O	O	D	Fair haired; light coloured; a fair haired male.
10.	B	L	O	O	M	Bodily fluid principally carrying oxygen throughout the body; genetic relationship.
11.	B	R	O	O	M	Blossom or flower; surface colouring or dusting; to blossom or flower.
						A brush with a long handle; one of many shrubs in the tribe <i>Genisteae</i> .