Kitehawk Learning Spelling Program

Dictation Exercises
(Updated 09.10.15)

Choose sentences from the following or create your own sentences.

There are language elements included in each dictation. Students need to be familiar with these elements before testing.

All words in the dictation are from, or derived from previous lists.

Unit 4-19
[Language connection: Note the two pronunciations of 'content'; commas used with dates; use of the apostrophe with the possessive noun (Michael's); use of an apostrophe in a contraction; use of a comma to separate parts of a compound sentence (# 1); capitalise: title (Governor) name (Michael, Jill).]

1. My class was quite <u>excited</u> about Governor Michael's visit to our school on December 18, 2006, and we were <u>eager</u> to make him <u>comfortable</u>.
2. The <u>fanciest</u> dress was worn by a masked mystery woman. We were <u>delighted</u> and <u>surprised</u> to discover it was our dancing teacher Jill.
3. Was the leader <u>embarrass</u>ed or <u>puzzled</u> that his men had not <u>completed</u> the <u>simplest</u> assignment?
4. She wasn't <u>content</u> having <u>earlier</u> won the prize but it still turned out to be the <u>loveliest</u> night ever.

Unit 4-20
[Language connection: indentation of paragraph optional; apostrophe in contractions; commas after time and order (sequence) words; interrogatory sentence - question mark; capitalise titles, names, parts of letter (Councillor, Smith, Dear - but not truly, special days - Christmas); exclamatory sentence !]

Dear Councillor Smith
I'm writing <u>immediately</u> because I'm concerned about the <u>invasion</u> of rats <u>during</u> our winter <u>vacation</u>. It is curious that you have not made a <u>decision</u> to act.
<u>First</u>, I'd like to <u>mention</u> the health and safety of the people. <u>For example</u>, people are scared and are being <u>driven</u> out of their comfortable homes.
<u>Secondly</u>, this certainly would cause problems <u>afterwards</u>. <u>Therefore</u>, it must be stopped. My Christmas <u>decoration</u>s have been eaten!
Yours <u>truly</u>
Jill Jones

Unit 4-21
[Language connection: Exclamation mark after exclamatory sentences, capitalise the first word in a sentence, homophones - use the correct spelling of words in a sentence; apostrophe in contractions.]

The kangaroo was forced to <u>pause</u> at the edge of the <u>creek</u> and <u>choose</u> a more <u>practical</u> path. He now rests, scratches his stomach with his <u>paws</u> and <u>chews</u> some fresh grass. A <u>creak</u>ing sound could be heard coming from the trees and then a quiet <u>whistle</u> but he couldn't see any people because of the heavy <u>mist</u>. It was a <u>miracle</u> that the kangaroo was now free.

Unit 4-22
[Language connection: Note: Two pronunciations of 'suspect'; Quotation marks; commas following an introductory phrase # 3.]

1. After the trip <u>across</u> the <u>desert</u> <u>wilderness</u> the young men were greedily <u>swallowing</u> water. Afterwards they had yoghurt for <u>dessert</u>. "I <u>suspect</u> they were exhausted," the tyrant said.
2. During the vacation swimming classes, students must learn to quickly take a deep <u>breath</u> and <u>then</u> <u>breathe</u> out gently under water.
3. Before the winter, the people of the village used their extraordinary <u>cloth</u> to make sensational <u>clothes</u>.

Unit 4-23
[Language connection: Use of an apostrophe to indicate a possessive noun (knight's, tree's); comma following an introductory phrase (in 1st sentence).]

During the <u>handsome</u> <u>knight</u>'s <u>reign</u>, <u>anyone</u> wanting <u>knowledge</u> came to the <u>castle</u>. <u>Often</u> the knight would make a <u>sign</u> and get the person to <u>climb</u> up the oak tree's <u>limbs</u>, and then <u>wriggle</u> through a narrow window. They then had to <u>kneel</u>, and <u>listen</u> and wait for the <u>knight</u>'s <u>answer</u>. <u>Sometimes</u> the <u>answer</u> was <u>wrong</u>.