

WORD LADDERS

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A *word ladder* is a link between two given words in which each rung is obtained from its predecessor by altering exactly one letter in it. As an illustration, one way in which APE can evolve into MAN is via the chain APE → APT → OPT → OAT → MAT → MAN.

The fifteen common phrases offered below require similar constructions. The first dozen ladders connect pairs of four-letter words, while the final trio asks for a bridge between two five-letter words. Answers are not unique.

1. AMEN to THAT
2. CALL to DUTY
3. CASH to BURN
4. DUSK to DAWN
5. HEAD to TOES
6. HERE to STAY
7. MADE to LAST
8. RICH to POOR
9. SHOT to HELL
10. SLIM to NONE
11. SOUP to NUTS
12. WILL to LIVE
13. DRIVE to DRINK
14. SCARE to DEATH
15. TAKES to HEART

WORD LADDERS – Answers

1. AMEN → QMEN → OVEN → EVEN → EVES → EYES → DYES → DOES →
 TOES → TOSS → LOSS → LOST → COST → COAT → CHAT → THAT
2. CALL → CULL → DULL → DULY → DUTY
3. CASH → BASH → BUSH → BUSY → BURY → BURN
4. DUSK → MUSK → MASK → MASS → MAWS → LAWS → LAWN → DAWN
5. HEAD → HEED → TEED → TEES → TOES
6. HERE → HERD → HEAD → HEAR → SEAR → STAR → STAY
7. MADE → MALE → MALT → MAST → LAST
8. RICH → RICE → MICE → MILE → PILE → POLE → POLL → POOL → POOR
9. SHOT → SLOT → SLAT → SEAT → SEAL → SELL → HELL
10. SLIM → SLID → SAID → SAND → BAND → BOND → BONE → NONE
11. SOUP → SOUR → SOAR → BOAR → BEAR → BEER → BEES → BETS → NETS → NUTS
12. WILL → FILL → FILE → FIVE → LIVE
13. DRIVE → DROVE → GROVE → GRAVE → GRACE → TRACE → TRUCE → TRUCK →
 TRUNK → DRUNK → DRINK
14. SCARE → SCARS → SEARS → HEARS → HEATS → HEATH → DEATH
15. TAKES → CAKES → CASES → CASTS → COSTS → COATS → BOATS → BEATS →
 BEARS → HEARS → HEART