Word Ladders Starter

Word Labyrinth

Name: _____ Date: _____

How to play: get from the top word to the bottom word by changing **one letter** at a time. Every rung has to be a real word, and the letters stay in the same order. Example: TOP → TIP → LIP. Three-letter words, 2 to 5 steps. A good first ladder from about age 7.

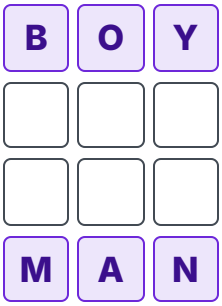
1. HAT to CAP

2 steps



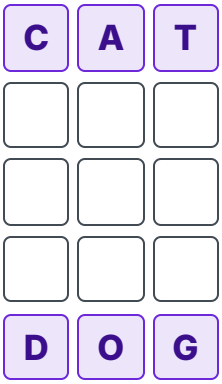
2. BOY to MAN

3 steps



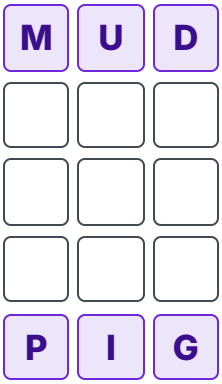
3. CAT to DOG

4 steps



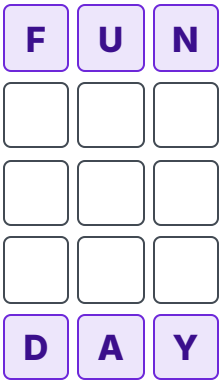
4. MUD to PIG

4 steps



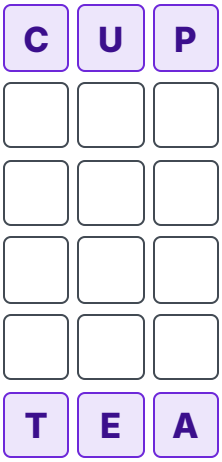
5. FUN to DAY

4 steps



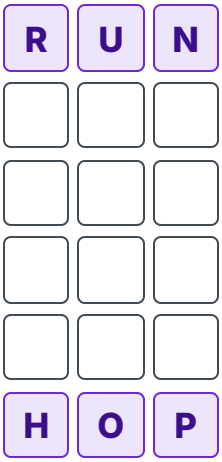
6. CUP to TEA

5 steps



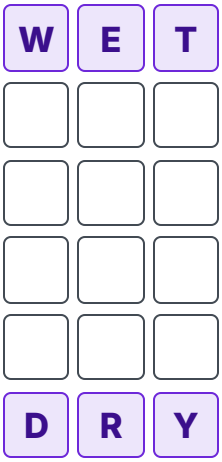
7. RUN to HOP

5 steps



8. WET to DRY

5 steps



Answer key Starter

One solution for each ladder

1. HAT → CAT → CAP
2. BOY → BAY → MAY → MAN
3. CAT → HAT → HOT → DOT → DOG
4. MUD → MUG → BUG → BIG → PIG
5. FUN → FAN → MAN → MAY → DAY
6. CUP → CAP → TAP → TAN → TEN → TEA
7. RUN → RUG → HUG → HUT → HOT → HOP
8. WET → PET → PAT → PAY → DAY → DRY

Each ladder above is as short as it gets with everyday words. Other answers can be right too: if every rung is a real word and only one letter changes each time, count it.

Make your own ladder. Pick two words with the same number of letters and build the ladder between them. Swap with a partner and solve each other's.