

Talking Points for Introducing Students to



Post five spelling words in a prominent area of your classroom.

Leave the words on display for at least one day; a one-week display period is ideal.

The words can be current spelling words or Great American SpellCheck words. For suggestions, see pp. 4–11 of this document.

When students ask about the words, be playfully vague; say, “They’re important words that you should know how to spell.”

Remove the five spelling words from display and tell students it’s time for a pop quiz.

Ask students to get a sheet of paper and number from 1 to 5. Administer a five word spelling quiz using the words you had on display.

After the quiz, put the words on display and ask students to self-grade their spelling quizzes.

Assure students that you’re not going record their scores.

Tell students that they are about to discover that spelling and math intersect:

What if someone paid a quarter for each word that you spelled correctly on today’s pop quiz? How much would that be?

Make the calculations:

25¢ for one word spelled correctly | 50¢ for two words spelled correctly

75¢ for three words spelled correctly | \$1.00 for four words spelled correctly

\$1.25 for five words spelled correctly

Throughout this introduction to Great American SpellCheck, the way that you and/or the students make calculations should be tied to the students’ math skills.