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Confusing Verbs

For each of the six questions choose the one correct answer:

1. Nobody died in the accident, but 20 people were _____.
 - a. damaged
 - b. injured
 - c. spoiled
 - d. broken

2. Look at this advertisement Mary, it _____ there's 50% of everything at Yvonne's boutique – shall we go?
 - a. says
 - b. notices
 - c. advises
 - d. writes

3. I've been studying English for 2 years now, and I still can't _____ it very well.
 - a. talk
 - b. say
 - c. tell
 - d. speak

4. Ken's _____ is not what it used to be, he's always forgetting where he's put things.
 - a. remember
 - b. memoirs
 - c. memory
 - d. souvenirs

5. She _____ her children, she gives them whatever they want.
 - a. damages
 - b. ruins
 - c. spoils
 - d. hurts

6. The government is encouraging everyone to _____ water by not washing their cars.
 - a. waste
 - b. save
 - c. spend
 - d. use

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Confusing Verbs

Answers

1. Nobody died in the accident, but 20 people were _____.
 - a. damaged - An object might be damaged, but not a person.
 - b. injured - If a person is hurt, we can say injured e.g. a broken arm. Correct**
 - c. spoiled - If you can't use something because it is damaged it is spoiled.
 - d. broken - A person can break their arm or leg, but not themselves.

2. Look at this advertisement Mary, it _____ there's 50% of everything at Yvonne's boutique – shall we go?
 - a. says - If you talk about written information, you can use the verb 'say'. Correct**
 - b. notices - The advert is a kind of notice, but 'notice' is not the correct verb.
 - c. advises - If something advises you to do something it may say 'You should...'
 - d. writes - The information is written, but this is not the correct verb.

3. I've been studying English for 2 years now, and I still can't _____ it very well.
 - a. talk - 'Talk a language' is not correct, you talk about something.
 - b. say - 'Say a language' is not correct, you say something to somebody.
 - c. tell - 'Tell a language' is not correct, you tell somebody something.
 - d. speak - 'Speak a language' is correct.**

4. Ken's _____ is not what it used to be, he's always forgetting where he's put things.
 - a. remember - 'Remember' is a verb – the opposite of forget.
 - b. memoirs - If you are someone in the public eye, you might write you memoirs – the story of your life.
 - c. memory - Memory is your ability to remember things, e.g. he has a good memory for faces. Correct**
 - d. souvenirs - Souvenirs are objects you might get on holiday to help you remember somewhere you've visited.

5. She _____ her children, she gives them whatever they want.
 - a. damages - 'Damage' is not correct.
 - b. ruins - 'Ruin' is not correct.
 - c. spoils - If you never say 'no' to your children, you spoil them. Correct**
 - d. hurts - 'Hurt' is not correct.

6. The government is encouraging everyone to _____ water by not washing their cars.
 - a. waste - What's the opposite of 'waste' something?
 - b. save - Everyone should use less water i.e. save it. You can also save money, time or energy. Correct**
 - c. spend - What's the opposite of 'spend' something?
 - d. use - In fact the opposite is true, you shouldn't use water, what should you do?