Spelling Test V1.0

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BACKGROUND

My youngest son needed a spelling drill program. I obtained a DOS shareware program but it was not flexible enough. The program needed to be easy to use, easy to select a file of words to spell, be able to change to amount of time the word is flashed on the screen, and be able to review missed words. Flashing the words on the screen would be the closest means to simulate the teacher saying the word, without using a sound board. My son used this program through the second grade and it was very helpful to him. He offered suggestions and changes where made and he plans to use it this year.

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE

The program was written in Visual Basic to provide a nice user interface. The forms and code for visual basic is included. An executable is included but you will need the visual basic VBRUN100.DLL v\file which can be downloaded. The word files used were entered using Notepad with the extension of *.ACE. An option on the main screen will switch you to Notepad to edit or create new files.

PROGRAM OPERATION

You must first select an existing spelling file to use. Use the file folders and drives to select the proper directory. Double click on the file you wish to use. The words in the file will show in the box on the right hand side. If you do not have any spelling file, wish to edit an existing one select Change Words to start Notepad. When you exit notepad it will place you back to the Select Spelling file screen. Some sample files are included.

To start the spelling drill select Spell from the menu.

You are prompted to click on NEXT WORD button to start the spelling drill. At this time or at any other you can change the time the next word is displayed by moving the slide bar above the display time literal. Once you click on the NEXT WORD button the next word in the list is shown for a given period of time and then hidden. The sequence words are shown are random. A different sequence each time you do the drill on a selected list.

The cursor is placed in a box where you type the correctly spelled word. If for some reason you forgot the word or was interrupted, you can click on the RESHOW LAST WORD button to re-display the current word for the same period of time. Enter the spelling of the word displayed in the box under Enter Spelling Here literal. You can hit the ENTER key or click on the CHECK SPELLING button. The number under the happy or sad face is incremented along with an arrow above the face indicated right or wrong.

Click on the NEXT WORD button to continue the drill or since the cursor is on the NEXT WORD button you may just hit the ENTER key. You can Restart, Exit, or get a New List at any time. This will of course end the current drill. After the drill is completed, you can Review Missed Words for any words misspelled. If words are misspelled again, you can give them another try.