

One-Track Mind



People who concentrate on one thing at a time usually produce quality work. Clear out your mental clutter to focus on these words with a *mono/uni* root, meaning "one." For each word, write the letter of the matching definition. Check your answers with a dictionary.

- a. having one spouse
- b. an eyeglass for one eye
- c. religious house where one goes to be alone, away from the world
- d. control of sales by one person or company
- e. having one sound or tone
- f. one single, large stone or monument
- g. fear of being alone
- h. sung with one voice
- i. one of a kind
- j. act of combining separate items into one

1. monastery _____

2. monotone _____

3. monophobia _____

4. union _____

5. unison _____

6. monogamy _____


7. unique _____


8. monopoly _____

9. monocle _____

10. monolith _____

Picture this! Have some fun with the "look" of these vocabulary words. Add small details to the letter shapes so that the words themselves make a picture of their definitions.

mono  ith

mon  cle

One of a Kind?



Scholars believe that the unicorn was nothing more than the daydream of someone who had heard a traveler's tale about the very real rhinoceros. What a disappointing way to end all those stories about knights and fair damsels and unicorns!

But there are plenty of other things in the world that are unique—like the words below. Use *mono-* or *uni-* to complete each one. Then write the correct number beside each definition.

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. _____ -form | a. believing in one god |
| 2. _____ -arch | b. lengthy speech given by one person |
| 3. _____ -syllabic | c. mythical creature with one horn |
| 4. _____ -verse | d. one ruler, king |
| 5. _____ -ania | e. all created things turned into one thing |
| 6. _____ -gram | f. using words of one syllable |
| 7. _____ -corn | g. restricted to one idea |
| 8. _____ -theism | h. consisting of one color |
| 9. _____ -logue | i. single letter or combination of letters to stand for a name |
| 10. _____ -chromatic | j. having one form |

Tell Me Why-O-Why? Refer to your list of all 20 *mono/uni* words to answer these why questions.

- A. Why did the British explorer inspect the monolith so carefully with his monocle?

- B. Why did the music company have a monopoly on recordings that featured monotone unison singing?

- C. Why were ~~only monosyllabic words permitted within the walls of the monastery?~~

- D. Why did the bride give her husband a monologue on monogamy?

- E. Why did the monarch change the monochromatic monograms on all his soldiers' uniforms?
