

Word Ladder

Climb each ladder. Change exactly one letter on every step, and let the clue tell you the new word.

Ladder 1 3 letters

START
P I G
It is small and sharp. It holds cloth together.
You cook eggs in it. It has a long handle.
A metal tin of soup. You open the lid to eat.
C A T
FINISH

Ladder 2 4 letters

START
H A N D
A group of people who play music.
To curve something, like folding a straw.
Not straight any more.
T E N T
FINISH

Ladder 3 4 letters, tricky

START
C O A T
How much money you must pay.
The hard white wrap on a broken arm.
Money in coins and paper bills.
C A S E
FINISH

Ray says: Read the rung above AND below before you write. Then try swapping the first, middle, or last letter.

For grown-ups: the clue names the word, but the rungs above and below decide which letter may move, so check both before writing. If a rung stalls, ask "which letters are already right?" Ladder 3 is the stretch: two steps in a row change its last letter.

Answers: Ladder 1 > PIG · PIN · PAN · CAN · CAT | Ladder 2 > HAND · BAND · BEND · BENT · TENT | Ladder 3 > COAT · COST · CAST · CASH · CASE