Commonly Confused Words: Illusion vs. Allusion

Illusion and *allusion* sound almost alike, but their meanings are different.

Illusion is a noun meaning a false belief or appearance.

    Example 1: The fall leaves created the illusion of trees on fire.

Allusion is a noun meaning a brief or indirect reference.

    Example 1: In her speech she made an allusion to her childhood.

Choose *illusion* or *allusion* to complete each sentence.

1. The judge ruled that the lawyer can't make an _____ to the previous crime.

2. The magician practiced an _____ with a rabbit and a hat.

3. In the story there was an _____ to the American Revolution.

4. A rainbow is an optical _____.

5. Her _____ of safety fell apart when the rocks started to fall.

6. Using an _____ in a poem is a way to create interest.

7. The candidate's _____ to his opponent made the voters mad.

8. He had no _____ that the job would be easy.

9. The _____ to Shakespeare in the poem makes the reader laugh.

10. Many people have the _____ that Ronald is very smart.

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