HYphenation with Compound Words

Compound words in English may be open, closed, or hyphenated. These variations have occurred for historical reasons and do not follow a set rule.

For example:  

- night shift = open compound word  
- nighttime = closed compound word  
- night-light = hyphenated compound word

Each pair of words below forms a compound noun. (Note that compound words may have different spellings depending on the part of speech being used.) Rewrite each pair correctly as an open, closed, or hyphenated compound noun. Suggestion: The best way to determine the accurate spelling of a compound word is to look it up in a current dictionary.

1. watch band  
2. band stand  
3. high chair  
4. high rise  
5. color guard  
6. eye contact  
7. self discipline  
8. water skier  
9. school board  
10. note book  
11. forty two  
12. self expression  
13. city state
14. cross examination

15. break up

16. high tops

17. eighty seven

18. by path

19. mix up

20. first born

Which dictionary did you use? (Indicate the year of publication as well as the complete title.)