

Commonly Confused Words 1 Answer Key

Name _____ Date _____

Commonly Confused Words #1

When two words have similar sounds or spellings, it can be easy to mix them up! Write the correct word to complete each sentence.

- Louise remembered to pack everything for the ski trip _____ for her sunscreen.
Do you know if the gift shop will _____ credit cards?
accept **except**
- Whatever you do, don't _____ your ticket, because it's your only way to get back into the park.
Danny tried on his dad's old leather jacket, but it was a bit _____ on him.
lose **loose**
- Kalil loves to act and sing, so he hopes to get _____ in the school musical this spring.
Selena and her twin sister Luna have never been _____ for more than a weekend.
apart **a part**
- Getting enough fresh air and exercise can have a positive _____ on your mood and your health.
We can't always predict how our decisions will _____ others around us.
affect **effect**
- Buenos Aires, Argentina, is one of the most beautiful _____ cities in the world.
State legislators meet in their state's _____ building to discuss and create laws.
capital **capitol**
- Every year on their anniversary, my grandparents visit the _____ where they first met.
Arya wistfully watched the car drive away until it was out of _____.
site **sight**
- Aunt Cindy thought that the blue curtains would perfectly _____ the dark hardwood floors.
My favorite writing teacher, Mr. Ortega, always finds something to _____ in his students' work.
compliment **complement**
- We gazed up in wonder as the tiny glimmer of the International Space Station _____ over us.
Many of our modern sports look quite different from the versions played in the _____.
passed **past**
- Audience members must take their seats before the show can _____ as scheduled.
Many people believe that peculiar animal behaviors can _____ an earthquake.
precede **proceed**



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COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS CAN OFTEN LEAD TO MISUNDERSTANDINGS IN WRITTEN AND SPOKEN COMMUNICATION. THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IS FILLED WITH HOMOPHONES, HOMONYMS, AND WORDS THAT SOUND SIMILAR BUT HAVE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT MEANINGS. IT IS ESSENTIAL TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THESE WORDS TO ENHANCE CLARITY AND PRECISION IN COMMUNICATION. THIS ARTICLE WILL DELVE INTO SOME OF THE MOST FREQUENTLY CONFUSED WORDS, PROVIDING EXPLANATIONS, EXAMPLES, AND TIPS TO HELP YOU MASTER THEIR USAGE.

UNDERSTANDING COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS

COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS CAN CREATE SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES, PARTICULARLY FOR THOSE LEARNING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE OR FOR NATIVE SPEAKERS WHO MIGHT OVERLOOK NUANCES. MISUSING THESE WORDS CAN ALTER THE MEANING OF SENTENCES, LEADING TO UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES. LET'S EXPLORE SOME OF THE MOST COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS, THEIR DEFINITIONS, AND HOW TO USE THEM CORRECTLY.

1. AFFECT VS. EFFECT

- AFFECT (VERB): TO INFLUENCE OR MAKE A CHANGE IN SOMETHING.
- EFFECT (NOUN): A RESULT OR AN OUTCOME OF A CHANGE.

EXAMPLE SENTENCES:

- THE WEATHER CAN AFFECT YOUR MOOD.
- THE EFFECT OF THE NEW LAW WAS NOTICEABLE IMMEDIATELY.

TIP: REMEMBER THAT "A" FOR "AFFECT" IS AN ACTION (VERB), WHILE "E" FOR "EFFECT" IS AN END RESULT (NOUN).

2. THEIR VS. THERE VS. THEY'RE

- THEIR: POSSESSIVE FORM OF THEY, INDICATING OWNERSHIP.
- THERE: REFERS TO A PLACE OR LOCATION; CAN ALSO BE USED AS A PRONOUN.
- THEY'RE: A CONTRACTION OF "THEY ARE."

EXAMPLE SENTENCES:

- THEIR HOUSE IS AT THE END OF THE STREET.
- THE BOOK IS OVER THERE ON THE TABLE.
- THEY'RE GOING TO THE CONCERT TONIGHT.

TIP: IF YOU CAN REPLACE "THEY'RE" WITH "THEY ARE," THEN YOU SHOULD USE "THEY'RE."

3. YOUR VS. YOU'RE

- YOUR: POSSESSIVE FORM OF YOU.
- YOU'RE: A CONTRACTION OF "YOU ARE."

EXAMPLE SENTENCES:

- IS THIS YOUR JACKET?
- YOU'RE GOING TO LOVE THIS MOVIE!

TIP: AGAIN, IF YOU CAN SUBSTITUTE "YOU'RE" WITH "YOU ARE," THEN "YOU'RE" IS THE CORRECT CHOICE.

4. ITS VS. IT'S

- ITS: POSSESSIVE FORM OF IT.
- IT'S: A CONTRACTION OF "IT IS" OR "IT HAS."

EXAMPLE SENTENCES:

- THE DOG WAGGED ITS TAIL.
- IT'S GOING TO RAIN TODAY.

TIP: IF YOU CAN REPLACE "IT'S" WITH "IT IS" OR "IT HAS," THEN USE "IT'S."

5. THEN VS. THAN

- THEN: RELATES TO TIME; INDICATES WHAT COMES NEXT.
- THAN: USED FOR COMPARISONS.

EXAMPLE SENTENCES:

- WE WILL GO TO THE STORE THEN WE WILL HAVE DINNER.
- SHE IS TALLER THAN HER BROTHER.

TIP: THINK OF "THAN" AS A COMPARISON WORD, WHILE "THEN" RELATES TO A SEQUENCE OF EVENTS.

6. LOOSE VS. LOSE

- LOOSE: NOT TIGHT OR FREE FROM CONSTRAINTS.
- LOSE: TO MISPLACE OR FAIL TO WIN.

EXAMPLE SENTENCES:

- MY SHIRT IS TOO LOOSE.
- DON'T LOSE YOUR KEYS.

TIP: REMEMBER "LOSE" HAS ONLY ONE "O" AND IS ASSOCIATED WITH MISPLACING OR FAILING.

7. COMPLEMENT VS. COMPLIMENT

- COMPLEMENT: SOMETHING THAT COMPLETES OR GOES WELL WITH SOMETHING.
- COMPLIMENT: A POLITE EXPRESSION OF PRAISE OR ADMIRATION.

EXAMPLE SENTENCES:

- THE WINE IS A PERFECT COMPLEMENT TO THE MEAL.
- SHE RECEIVED MANY COMPLIMENTS ON HER DRESS.

TIP: THINK OF "COMPLEMENT" AS COMPLETING SOMETHING AND "COMPLIMENT" AS SOMETHING NICE TO SAY.

8. CAPITAL VS. CAPITOL

- CAPITAL: REFERS TO A CITY THAT SERVES AS THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT, WEALTH, OR ASSETS.
- CAPITOL: A BUILDING WHERE A LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY MEETS.

EXAMPLE SENTENCES:

- WASHINGTON D.C. IS THE CAPITAL OF THE UNITED STATES.
- THE LAWMAKERS GATHERED AT THE CAPITOL TO DISCUSS THE NEW BILL.

TIP: REMEMBER THAT "CAPITOL" HAS AN "O" AND IS RELATED TO A BUILDING.

9. PRINCIPAL VS. PRINCIPLE

- PRINCIPAL: REFERS TO A PERSON OF HIGH AUTHORITY OR IMPORTANCE, OR THE MAIN SUM OF MONEY.
- PRINCIPLE: A FUNDAMENTAL TRUTH OR PROPOSITION SERVING AS THE FOUNDATION FOR A SYSTEM OF BELIEF.

EXAMPLE SENTENCES:

- THE PRINCIPAL OF THE SCHOOL ADDRESSED THE STUDENTS.
- HONESTY IS A CORE PRINCIPLE OF OUR VALUES.

TIP: "PRINCIPAL" IS OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH SOMEONE IN CHARGE, WHILE "PRINCIPLE" RELATES TO RULES OR BELIEFS.

10. STATIONARY VS. STATIONERY

- STATIONARY: NOT MOVING OR FIXED IN PLACE.
- STATIONERY: PAPER AND OTHER OFFICE SUPPLIES.

EXAMPLE SENTENCES:

- THE CAR REMAINED STATIONARY AT THE RED LIGHT.
- I BOUGHT SOME STATIONERY TO WRITE MY LETTERS.

TIP: "STATIONERY" HAS AN "E" FOR "ENVELOPE" AND REFERS TO WRITING MATERIALS.

TIPS FOR MASTERING COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS

1. PRACTICE REGULARLY: ENGAGE IN EXERCISES, QUIZZES, AND WRITING PROMPTS THAT FOCUS ON THESE COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS.
2. CREATE FLASHCARDS: WRITE THE WORD ON ONE SIDE AND ITS DEFINITION OR AN EXAMPLE SENTENCE ON THE OTHER TO AID MEMORIZATION.
3. READ ALOUD: HEARING THE WORDS CAN HELP REINFORCE THEIR MEANINGS AND CORRECT USAGE.
4. USE IN CONTEXT: INCORPORATE THESE WORDS INTO YOUR WRITING AND SPEECH TO BECOME MORE COMFORTABLE WITH THEM.
5. PROOFREAD: ALWAYS REVIEW YOUR WRITING FOR COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS BEFORE FINALIZING IT.

CONCLUSION

THE USE OF COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS CAN SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACT THE CLARITY OF YOUR COMMUNICATION. BY UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THESE WORDS AND PRACTICING THEIR CORRECT USAGE, YOU CAN ENHANCE YOUR WRITING AND SPEAKING SKILLS. IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THE DISTINCTIONS AND APPLY THEM IN EVERYDAY LANGUAGE TO AVOID CONFUSION AND MISCOMMUNICATION. KEEP PRACTICING, AND SOON THESE COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS WILL BECOME SECOND NATURE!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 'AFFECT' AND 'EFFECT'?

'AFFECT' IS A VERB MEANING TO INFLUENCE SOMETHING, WHILE 'EFFECT' IS A NOUN THAT REFERS TO THE RESULT OF A CHANGE.

WHEN SHOULD I USE 'THERE', 'THEIR', AND 'THEY'RE'?

'THERE' REFERS TO A PLACE, 'THEIR' IS A POSSESSIVE PRONOUN INDICATING OWNERSHIP, AND 'THEY'RE' IS A CONTRACTION FOR 'THEY ARE'.

HOW DO 'COMPLEMENT' AND 'COMPLIMENT' DIFFER?

'COMPLEMENT' MEANS SOMETHING THAT COMPLETES OR GOES WELL WITH SOMETHING, WHILE 'COMPLIMENT' REFERS TO A POLITE EXPRESSION OF PRAISE OR ADMIRATION.

WHAT IS THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN 'PRINCIPAL' AND 'PRINCIPLE'?

'PRINCIPAL' CAN REFER TO THE HEAD OF A SCHOOL OR AN ORGANIZATION OR MEAN PRIMARY, WHILE 'PRINCIPLE' REFERS TO A FUNDAMENTAL TRUTH OR PROPOSITION.

WHEN SHOULD I USE 'FEWER' VS. 'LESS'?

'FEWER' IS USED FOR COUNTABLE OBJECTS (E.G., 'FEWER APPLES'), WHILE 'LESS' IS USED FOR UNCOUNTABLE QUANTITIES (E.G., 'LESS WATER').

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 'I.E.' AND 'E.G.'?

'I.E.' STANDS FOR 'THAT IS' AND IS USED TO CLARIFY OR EXPLAIN, WHILE 'E.G.' STANDS FOR 'FOR EXAMPLE' AND IS USED TO GIVE EXAMPLES.

HOW DO 'THAN' AND 'THEN' DIFFER IN USAGE?

'THAN' IS USED FOR COMPARISONS (E.G., 'BETTER THAN'), WHILE 'THEN' IS USED TO DENOTE TIME OR SEQUENCE (E.G., 'FIRST, THEN').

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 'ACCEPT' AND 'EXCEPT'?

'ACCEPT' MEANS TO RECEIVE OR AGREE TO SOMETHING, WHILE 'EXCEPT' MEANS TO EXCLUDE OR LEAVE OUT.

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_____omega _____alpha _____beta_____ _

_____omega _____alpha _____beta_____

_____—Beta_____Alpha_____Omega_____

commonly used _____ *widely used* _____ - _____

commonly used _____; _____; _____; _____ widely used _____; _____; _____; _____; _____; _____ widely _____ commonly _____“_____ ...

Aire en la espalda - WordReference Forums

Jul 7, 2014 · A patient was speaking about a pain she was having in her abdomen, but said it was 'como un aire en la espalda' - but in her abdomen. She mentioned it was a creencia, and she didn't give it much credence, but wanted to use it as a description of how the pain appeared. My understanding, in...

a wide flat of niggerheads - WordReference Forums

Dec 19, 2005 · For obvious reasons, the term is no longer used to refer to the flower commonly known as "black-eyed Susan". I became curious about the term when encountering it in John Steinbeck's "East of Eden", Chapter 15, sub-chapter [2]: "The wild oat roots stood up like niggerheads where the winds blew the earth away." The Latin name for the flower is Rudbeckia hirta. ...

date back to or date from - WordReference Forums

Sep 21, 2014 · It's most commonly used that way, but it is possible to use it in more general statements, or at least it's possible for me. Let me put it this way: Dates from is usually fairly specific, and talking about a historical period is specific enough. There is a problem with your

sentence, but it's not dates from.

EN: Good luck with/on/for/in/at - WordReference Forums

Apr 26, 2007 · "At" doesn't bother in me at all in this context: we commonly use "at work" or "at your job," and adding "good luck" in front doesn't affect that. I probably wouldn't say "good luck on your job" because "on" tends to imply a single event that will be over in a relatively short amount of time (e.g., an exam), whereas a new job is hopefully a ...

So much or so many homework - WordReference Forums

Dec 25, 2009 · It is so much homework. Homework is uncountable in this context. If the object were "homework assignments", then it would be countable: I have so many homework assignments.

Commonly-used [with or without hyphen] hyphenation -ly suffix

Jan 16, 2016 · Hi, I would like to know which of the two is correct: "a commonly-used word/object" or "a commonly used word/object"? I know that you usually use the hyphen for adjs before nouns (as in commonly-held), but if I search Google I find lots of ...

in the first week or on the first week | WordReference Forums

Dec 21, 2016 · I have heard people say either "in the first week" or "on the first week". I am not sure which one native English speakers use more. I am going to make up a sentence with it below. (ex) I will send you the full Visa payment in or on the first week of next month. Please explain it. Thanks a lot.

"workday" or "work day" | WordReference Forums

Dec 23, 2014 · Hello. What is the difference between "workday" and "work day"? Why do some people write "workday", others — "work day"?

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$$\begin{aligned} & \omega \alpha \beta \\ & \dots \end{aligned}$$

commonly used □ widely used □□□ - □□□□

commonly used 常用 widely used 广泛使用
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