



Words Often Confused

Learning Outcomes

- Students will recognize commonly confused words in English.
- They will learn the meanings and usage of such words.
- They will construct sentences to demonstrate correct usage.

Words Often Confused

- affect** (to influence something) : His relatives' interference **affected** their relationship.

effect (a result or to cause something to happen) : Her guidance has the strongest **effect** on me.
- breath** (air that we take in) : He was out of **breath** after running for miles.

breathe (the action of taking in air) : We should **breathe** fresh air.
- complement** (to complete or make better) : This hairstyle **complements** your face.

compliment (praise) : He received many **compliments** from his friends after succeeding in the UPSC exam.
- desert** (a dry land) : The **desert** is a hot and a dry place.

dessert (a sweet eaten after a meal) : I'd love a rasgulla for **dessert**.
- feel** (to perceive through touch) : The stone **feels** hard.

fill (to make full) : Kindly **fill** the cylinder with gas.
- heard** (past tense of hear) : I **heard** a faints round.

herd (a group of animals) : I saw a **herd** of cattle grazing in the meadow.
- its** (belonging to it) : The lion killed **its** own cub.

it's (it is) : **It's** very hot in June.
- knew** (past tense of know) : He **knew** the answers of all the questions.

new (fresh, recent) : My uncle bought a **new** car.
- loose** (not fastened) : Her shoelaces come **loose** as she walked on and on.

lose (to not win) : I **lose** at every games of chess.
- passed** (to proceed without pause) : I **passed** my old school on my way to my grandmother's house.

past (no longer current or over) : Dinosaurs roamed the earth in the **past**.



11. **principle** (a basic truth, law or assumption) : He doesn't cheat. It's against his **principle**.
principal (the first or foremost) : The constitution is the **principal** law in the United States.
12. **quiet** (an absence of noise) : It's completely **quiet** at midnight.
quite (entirely or completely) : That is not **quite** the right thing to do.
13. **right** (morally good, justified, or acceptable) : Always do the **right** things.
write (to compose) : I **write** a letter to my grandpa occasionally.
14. **too** (also or additional) : You should not spend **too** much time watching TV.
to (a preposition indicating direction) : We went **to** the park.



Skills/Level
WRITING/A2



Distinguish between these pairs of words by using them in sentences of your own.

1. addition _____
edition _____
2. advice _____
advise _____
3. all ready _____
already _____
4. dairy _____
diary _____
5. through _____
threw _____
6. heal _____
heel _____
7. write _____
right _____

