

## EASILY CONFUSED WORDS

**There**-location Example: I put my bag in the corner over there.

**Their**-plural possessive Example: The family built their new home on Maple Street.

**They're**-they are Example: They're saving money for a new car.

**To**- location, preposition Example: I am going to the movie tonight.

**Two**-number Example: There are two pieces of pie left.

**Too**-also Example: Since you are already going downtown, could you stop by the post office, too?

**Too**-very Example: I am much too tired to exercise today.

**Whose**-pronoun Example: Whose fault is it that you're late?

**Who's**-who is Example: Who's the person I should speak to about making reservations for dinner?

**Its**-possessive pronoun Example: Please put the book in its place when you leave today.

**It's**-it is Example: It's the largest building in Alabama.

**Were**-past tense verb Example: The baseball players were practicing.

**Where**-in what place Example: Will you tell me where the library is located?

**Your**-second person possessive Example: Please keep your dog out of my yard.

**You're**-you are Example: Ouch! You're stepping on my toe.

**Then**-afterward Example: First we must cook the food; then we can serve it.

**Than**-comparison Example: I am younger than my brother.

**Fill** -make full Example: Please fill the pitcher with tea.

**Feel**-sensation Example: I can feel the cold breeze blowing.

**Sit**-occupy a seat Example: If you feel tired, sit down and rest.

**Set**-to place or put Example: When she finished watering the flowers, she set the plant on the table.

**Affect**-influence (verb) Example: The test grade can affect your average.

**Effect**-result (noun) Example: The medicine had a positive effect on her.

**Lose**-verb Example: I do not want our team to lose the game.

**Loose**-not tight (adjective) Example: This belt is too loose.

**An**-used before vowel sounds Example: I'd like an apple, please

**A**-used before consonant sounds Example: The park is a great place for a picnic.

**Accept**-to take, approve (verb) Example: I accept the decision you made.

**Except**-exclude, but (preposition) Example: I will take everything except my radio.

**Good**-positive qualities (adjective) Example: The milk in the refrigerator is still good.

**Well**-satisfactorily (adverb) Example: He plays the piano well.

**Hint:** Contractions are made up of two words joined by an apostrophe. If you have difficulty determining whether a contraction or its homonym would be correct in a sentence, try separating the contraction into its two original words. If the sentence still makes sense when the words are separated, the contraction is usually the correct choice for that sentence.

In the following sentences, circle the homonym that correctly completes each sentence.

1. Do you know (whose, who's) red shirt this is?
2. If you turn (to, two, too) the right you will see (to, two, too) birds whistling.
3. (Its, It's) time to start studying for the final exam.
4. The campers put all of (there, their, they're) supplies by the boat.
5. We had planned to go to the movie, but we can shop in the mall, (to, two, too).
6. If you need to speak to the advisors, (there, their, they're) in the conference room.
7. Do you remember (were, where) the keys are?
8. (Your, You're) the person elected to do the job.
9. I (fill, feel) too sick to go to class today.
10. I can (accept, except) all of the arguments you have presented.
11. If he (loses, looses) ten pounds, his belt will feel (lose, loose).
12. The dog is larger (then, than) the cat.
13. Please (sit, set) the glass on the table before you (sit, set) down on the sofa.
14. Some people suggest that television violence (affects, effects) children.
15. It will be (a, an) hour before he can see (a, an) doctor.

Answer Key: 1. whose; 2. to, two; 3. It's; 4. their; 5. too; 6. they're; 7. where; 8. You're; 9. feel; 10. accept; 11. loses, loose; 12. than; 13. set, sit; 14. affects; 15. an, a.