

## Commonly Confused Words

Word	Definition	Word	Definition
<b>accept</b>	To receive	<b>advice</b>	Recommendation
<b>except</b>	Other than	<b>advise</b>	To recommend
<b>affect</b>	To have an influence on (verb)	<b>all ready</b>	Prepared
<b>effect</b>	Result (noun); to cause (verb)	<b>already</b>	By or before this or that time
<b>allude</b>	To refer to indirectly	<b>allusion</b>	Indirect reference
<b>elude</b>	To avoid	<b>illusion</b>	False belief or perception
<b>bare</b>	Uncovered	<b>bored</b>	Uninterested
<b>bear</b>	To carry (verb); an animal (noun)	<b>board</b>	A wooden plank (noun); to get in a train, etc (verb)
<b>buy</b>	Purchase	<b>coarse</b>	Rough
<b>by</b>	Next to; near	<b>course</b>	Path; class
<b>capital</b>	The seat of government; monetary assets	<b>cite</b>	To quote, refer to
<b>capitol</b>	Government building	<b>sight</b>	The ability to see
<b>Capitol</b>	The building in Washington, DC, where the US Congress meets	<b>site</b>	A place
<b>complement</b>	To complete or add to (verb); something that completes (noun)	<b>conscience</b>	Sense of right and wrong
<b>compliment</b>	Praise	<b>conscious</b>	Mentally awake
<b>council</b>	Governing body	<b>desert</b>	To abandon
<b>counsel</b>	Advice (noun); to give advice (verb)	<b>dessert</b>	Sweet course at the end of a meal
<b>device</b>	An implement; a plan	<b>die</b>	To lose life
<b>devise</b>	To invent	<b>dye</b>	To change the color of something
<b>elicit</b>	To draw out, evoke	<b>forth</b>	Forward
<b>illicit</b>	Unlawful, forbidden	<b>fourth</b>	Referring to the number 4

\*All information on this handout came from 6<sup>th</sup> ed. The Holt Handbook.

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<b>Word</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Word</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>eminent</b>	Prominent	<b>gorilla</b>	The animal
<b>immanent</b>	Inherent	<b>guerrilla</b>	A type of soldier or warfare
<b>imminent</b>	About to happen		
<b>hear</b>	To perceive by ear	<b>heard</b>	Past tense of hear
<b>here</b>	In this place	<b>herd</b>	Group of animals
<b>its</b>	Possessive of it	<b>later</b>	After a time
<b>it's</b>	Contraction of it is	<b>latter</b>	The last in a series
<b>lead</b>	A metal (noun)	<b>lessen</b>	To reduce
<b>led</b>	Past tense of lead	<b>lesson</b>	Something learned
<b>loose</b>	Not tight; unbound	<b>maybe</b>	Perhaps
<b>lose</b>	To misplace	<b>may be</b>	Might be
<b>no</b>	Negative	<b>passed</b>	Past tense of pass
<b>know</b>	To be certain	<b>past</b>	A previous time; a time gone by
<b>patience</b>	Calm endurance	<b>peace</b>	The absence of war; quiet
<b>patients</b>	Persons receiving medical care	<b>piece</b>	A portion of something
<b>persecute</b>	To harass or worry	<b>personal</b>	Private; one's own
<b>prosecute</b>	To institute criminal proceedings against	<b>personnel</b>	Employees
<b>plain</b>	Unadorned	<b>precede</b>	To come before
<b>plane</b>	An aircraft; a carpenter's tool	<b>proceed</b>	To continue
<b>principal</b>	Most important (adj); head of a school (noun)	<b>quiet</b>	Silent
<b>principle</b>	A basic truth; rule of conduct	<b>quite</b>	Very
<b>raise</b>	To build up	<b>road</b>	Street, highway
<b>raze</b>	To tear down	<b>rode</b>	Past tense of ride
<b>right</b>	Correct	<b>scene</b>	Place of action; section of a play
<b>rite</b>	A ritual	<b>seen</b>	Viewed
<b>write</b>	To put words on paper		
<b>sense</b>	Perception, understanding	<b>stationary</b>	Standing still
<b>since</b>	From a time in the past up to the present	<b>stationery</b>	Writing paper

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<b>Word</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Word</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>their</b>	Possessive of they	<b>than</b>	As compared with
<b>there</b>	In that place	<b>then</b>	At that time; next
<b>they're</b>	Contraction of they are		
<b>through</b>	Finished; into and out of	<b>to</b>	Toward
<b>threw</b>	Past tense of throw	<b>too</b>	Also; more than sufficient
<b>thorough</b>	Complete	<b>two</b>	The number
<b>waist</b>	The middle of the body	<b>weather</b>	Atmospheric conditions
<b>waste</b>	Discarded material (noun); to squander (verb)	<b>whether</b>	In either case
<b>which</b>	One of a group	<b>who's</b>	Contraction of who is
<b>witch</b>	Female sorcerer	<b>whose</b>	Possessive of who
<b>your</b>	Possessive of you		
<b>you're</b>	Contraction of you are		

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