

Commonly Confused Words

Choose the correct word for each of the following sentences.

1. Linda's hurtful words (*affected, effected*) my ability to concentrate.
2. The cat will surely find (*it's, its*) way home by tonight.
3. Do not use the emergency exits, (*accept, except*) in case of fire.
4. Blue-screen matting is a common special (*effect, affect*) in television and movies.
5. The track coach will not (*accept, except*) applications submitted after the first of the year.
6. Matthew was studying the cause and (*affect, effect*) of historical events.
7. If you drive through town on (*your, you're*) way home, please stop in.
8. It's (*to, too*) bad you didn't (*here, hear*) the lecture.
9. I ran out of plain (*stationary, stationery*) after writing all those letters.
10. Our (*principal, principle*) goal is to bring (*peace, piece*) to the region.
11. People should think more about the (*principals, principles*) by which they live.
12. (*Their, There, They're*) is a good chance of snow tomorrow.
13. Are you going to the free concert in front of the (*capital, capitol*) tonight?
14. There is much discussion about whether the full moon (*affects, effects*) human behavior.
15. Jason's pen pal lives in the (*capital, capitol*) city of Guatemala.
16. Misty is researching the (*affects, effects*) of listening to different types of music while studying.
17. What (*affect, effect*) will the new high school have on the district rivalries?
18. What a (*complement, compliment*) for your classmates to select you as Person of the Year!
19. I think that fresh fruit would (*complement, compliment*) the dinner nicely.
20. Catherine received many (*complements, compliments*) on her singing.
21. The film is a good (*complement, compliment*) to the book.
22. Allow me to (*complement, compliment*) you on your hat, Mr. Ozu.
23. She said it was well known for (*its, it's*) terrific service, as well as the wonderful food.
24. When you place your chopsticks across your bowl, (*its, it's*) a sign that you're finished.
25. Each food is chosen for (*its, it's*) taste, texture, and color.
26. The letter was written on very elegant (*stationary, stationery*).
27. Since I already have the theater tickets, we can meet (*their, there*) just before eight.
28. I'm training my dogs, since (*they're, their*) going to grow to be very large.
29. Mrs. Jefferson asked the school (*principle, principal*) to introduce her to the staff.
30. Cary Grant, Tony Curtis, and Beverly Sills all changed (*their, there*) names.
31. It is very important to remain (*stationary, stationery*) while observing wildlife.
32. If you want (*to, too, two*) work on the play, you must attend the audition.
33. They had to make reservations to visit the caves, since the tour can't take (*to, too*) many people at once.
34. Did you turn in (*your, you're*) permission slip on time?
35. Send in the next (*to, too, two*) contestants.
36. Let's have the study session at (*your, you're*) house this time.
37. This menu has (*to, too, two*) many delicious choices!
38. When are you going (*to, too, two*) the gym?

Choose the letter of the sentence that uses the underlined word CORRECTLY.

39. a. There were not many passengers on the bus because it was still to early for the evening rush hour.
b. You'll break those test tubes if your not careful.
c. The refreshments committee will have to alter its plans in order to feed thirty extra people.
d. The study hall was quiet when the principle came in.