

Commonly Confused Words

accept: to receive	except: exclude, excluding	
advice: information, recommendation	advise: to inform or tell	
affect: to influence	effect: to bring about or cause (v.); a result or consequence (n.)	
beside: alongside, next to	besides: in addition to	
cite: to quote or refer to	sight: vision	site: location
compliment: an approving remark	complement: something that completes or perfects another thing	
council: governing group	counsel: words of advice; to give advice	
desert: a dry, sandy region	dessert: what comes at the end of a meal	
ensure: to make certain	insure: to protect with insurance	
farther: greater in physical distance	further: greater in degree	
hole: a cavity	whole: entire, complete	
its: possessive form of <i>it</i>	it's: contraction of <i>it is</i>	
knew: past tense of <i>know</i>	new: recently existing; not yet old	
loose: unrestrained	lose: to be unable to maintain or find; to be deprived of	
principal: main, primary; administrator of a school	principle: standard, rule, or truth	
precede: to come before	proceed: to commence or continue	
than: word used to introduce the second element in a comparison	then: at that time in the past; next	
there: at or in that place	their: belonging to them	they're: contraction of <i>they are</i>
quiet: not loud; silent	quite: greatly; actually	
stationary: fixed in place	stationery: writing paper	
to: toward; as far as	too: also; extremely	two: the number after one
weather: climatic conditions	whether: conjunction that introduces an alternative, such as "whether or not"	
were: past tense of <i>are</i>	we're: contraction of <i>we are</i>	
your: belonging to you	you're: contraction of <i>you are</i>	