

Commonly Misused and Misspelled Words Exercise

Directions: Each sentence contains one or more sets of commonly misused or misspelled words. Read each sentence carefully. Then underline or circle the correct word in each set. When you are finished, check your responses with the answer key.

Ex. (*To, Too, Two*) of my cousins have moved since last year; my brother and his wife moved (*to, too, two*).

1. Baseball has always been called America's (pastime, pasttime).
2. (One, On) of these days I will have to try (one, on) my old prom dress again.
3. (There, Their, They're) car was stuck in the snow so (there, their, they're) going to be late to the meeting.
4. After a (whole, hole) day of terrible shots, I finally got a (whole, hole) in one on a par four.
5. School (bulling, bullying) has become a terrible problem.
6. After (emptying, emptying) the drawer, I finally found my car keys.
7. This show is funnier (then, than) it used to be.
8. Let's get the table set up and (then, than) see how many chairs we need.
9. Julie has a (mine, mind) for science.
10. Are you feeling (alright, all right)?
11. I am not sure I can (fine, find) my wallet, though.
12. Please stop (worrying, worrying) about tonight's game.
13. The President intends to (decrease, decrees, degrees) government spending over the next two years.
14. He (decrease, decrees, degrees), "We will make major budget cuts over the next eighteen months."

15. I don't know (weather, whether, wither) I will be going out in this kind of (weather, whether, wither).
16. This medicine doesn't seem to be having any (effect, affect) on my cold.
17. Colds don't (effect, affect) Martin at all.
18. Are (there, their, they're) (any more, anymore) potato chips left?
19. Jeff can't watch his favorite show (anymore, any more).
20. We (where, were) going to the park, but now Angela (would, wound) like to take us all to the movies.
21. First, we'll get our tickets, (and, an) (than, then) we'll stop by the concession stand.
22. The movie trailers seem to be (taking, taken) longer (then, than) usual.
23. (Nowadays, Now days) movie trailers can last up to twenty-five minutes.
24. I nearly dozed off while (the, they) the credits were rolling.
25. I should (of, have) left my handbag at home.

Answer Key

1. Baseball has always been called America's (**pastime**, pasttime).
2. (**One**, On) of these days I will have to try (one, **on**) my old prom dress again.
3. (There, **Their**, They're) car was stuck in the snow so (there, their, **they're**) going to be late to the meeting.
4. After a (**whole**, hole) day of terrible shots, I finally got a (whole, **hole**) in one on a par four.
5. School (bulling, **bullying**) has become a terrible problem.
6. After (**emptying**, emptying) the drawer, I finally found my car keys.
7. This show is funnier (then, **than**) it used to be.
8. Let's get the table set up and (**then**, than) see how many chairs we need.
9. Julie has a (mine, **mind**) for science.
10. Are you feeling (alright, **all right**)?
11. I am not sure I can (fine, **find**) my wallet, though.
12. Please stop (worrying, **worrying**) about tonight's game.
13. The President intends to (**decrease**, decrees, degrees) government spending over the next two years.
14. He (decrease, **decrees**, degrees), "We will make major budget cuts over the next eighteen months."
15. I don't know (weather, **whether**, wither) I will be going out in this kind of (**weather**, whether, wither).
16. This medicine doesn't seem to be having any (**effect**, affect) on my cold.
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23. (**Nowadays**, Now days) movie trailers can last up to twenty-five minutes.
24. I nearly dozed off while (**the**, they) the credits were rolling.
25. I should (of, **have**) left my handbag at home.