## COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS

Words that sound alike or look alike (moral/morale) often confuse students, especially those using spell checkers. This lengthy list of commonly confused words with simple definitions will help you decide which spelling fits your sentence.
accept : to receive
except : with the exclusion of
advice : recommendation (noun)
advise : to recommend (verb)
adverse : unfavorable
averse
affect
effect
aisle
isle
allude
elude
allusion
illusion
: opposed to
: to influence (verb); emotional response (noun)
: result (noun); to cause (verb)
: space between rows
: island
: to make indirect reference to
: to avoid
: indirect reference
: false idea, misleading appearance
already : by this time
all ready : fully prepared
altar : sacred platform or place
alter : to change
altogether
all together
: thoroughly
a lot : a quantity; many of something
allot : to divide or portion out
angel : supernatural being, good person
angle : shape made by joining two straight lines
are : plural form of "to be"
our : plural form of "my"
accent : pronunciation common to a region
ascent
assent
: the act of rising or climbing
: consent, agreement
assistance
assistants
bare : nude, unadorned
bear : to carry; an animal
beside
besides
boar
bore
board
bored
born borne
breath
breathe
brake
break
buy
by
canvas
canvass
capital
capitol
choose
chose
clothes
close
cloths
coarse
course
complement
compliment
conscience
conscious
corps
corpse
council
: help
: helpers
: closeto; next to
: except for; in addition
: a wild male pig
: to drill a hole through
: piece of wood
: uninterested
: brought into life
: past participle of "to bear" (carry)
: airtaken in (noun)
: to take in air (verb)
: device for stopping
: destroy; make into pieces
: to purchase
: next to; through the agency of
: heavy cloth
: to take a survey; a survey
: major city
: government building
: to pick
: past tense of "to choose"
: garments
: to shut; near
: pieces of fabric
: rough
: path; series of lectures
: something that completes
: praise, flattery
: sense of morality
: awake, aware
: regulated group
: dead body
: governing body

gorilla : animal in ape family
guerrilla : soldier specializing in surprise attacks
hear
here : in this place
heard : past tense of "to hear"
herd
hoard
horde
hole
whole
human
humane
its
it's
knew
new : fresh, not yet old
know
no
later
latter
lead
led
lessen
lesson
lightning
lightening
loose
lose
maybe may be meat meet mete medal meddle metal
: to comprehend
: negative
: after a time
: second one of two things
: heavy metal substance; to guide
: past tense of "to lead"
: to decrease
: something learned and/or taught
: storm-related electricity
: making lighter
: unbound, not tightly fastened
: to misplace
: perhaps (adv.)
: might be (verb)
: animal flesh
: to encounter
: to measure; to distribute
: a flat disk stamped with a design
: to interfere, intrude
: a hard organic substance
mettle miner minor moral morale passed past patience patients peace piece peak peek pique pedal petal peddle personal personnel plain plane precede proceed presence presents principal principle quiet quite rain reign rein raise
raze rational rationale
: courage, spirit, energy
: a worker in a mine
: underage person (noun); less important (adj.)
: distinguishing right from wrong; lesson of a fable or story
: attitude or outlook usually of a group
: past tense of "to pass"
: ata previoustime
: putting up with annoyances
: people under medical care
: absence of war
: part of a whole; musical arrangement
: point, pinnacle, maximum
: to peer through or look furtively
: fit of resentment, feeling of wounded vanity
: the foot lever of a bicycle or car
: a flower segment
: to sell
: intimate; owned by a person
: employees
: simple, unadorned
: to shave wood; aircraft (noun)
: to come before
: to continue
: attendance; being at hand
: gifts
: foremost (adj.); administrator of a school (noun)
: moral conviction, basic truth
: silent, calm
: very
: water drops falling; to fall like rain
: to rule
: strap to control an animal (noun); to guide or control (verb)
: to lift up
: to tear down
: having reason or understanding
: principles of opinion, beliefs

| respectfully | $:$ | with respect |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| respectively | $:$ | in that order |
| reverend | $:$ | title given to clergy; deserving respect |
| reverent | $:$ | worshipful |
| right | $:$ | correct; opposite of left |
| rite | $:$ | ritual or ceremony |
| write | $:$ | to put words on paper |
| road | $:$ | path |
| rode | $:$ | past tense of "to ride" |
| scene | $:$ | place of an action; segment of a play |
| seen | $:$ | viewed; past participle of "to see" |
| sense | $:$ | perception, understanding |
| since | $:$ | measurement of past time; because |
| sight | $:$ | scene, view, picture |
| site | $:$ | place, location |
| cite | $:$ | to document or quote (verb) |
| stationary | $:$ | standing still |
| stationery | $:$ | writing paper |
| straight | $:$ | unbending |
| strait | $:$ | narrow or confining; a waterway |
| taught | $:$ | past tense of "to teach" |
| taut | $:$ | tight |
| than | $:$ | used to introduce second element; compared to |
| then | $:$ | at that time; next |
| their | $:$ | possessive form of "they" |
| there | $:$ | in that place |
| they're | $:$ | contraction for "they are" |
| through | $:$ | finished; into and out of |
| threw | $:$ | past tense of "to throw" |
| thorough | $:$ | complete |
| to | $:$ | toward |
| too | $:$ | also; very (used to show emphasis) |
| two | $:$ | number following one |
| track | $:$ | course, road |
| tract | $:$ | pamphlet; plot of ground |
| waist | $:$ | midsection of the body |

waste : discarded material; to squander
waive : forgo, renounce
wave : flutter, move back and forth
weak : not strong
week : seven days
weather : climatic condition
whether : if
wether : a neutered male sheep
where : in which place
were : past tense of "to be"
which : one of a group
witch : female sorcerer
whose : possessive for "of who"
who's : contraction for "who is"
your : possessive for "of you"
you're $\quad:$ contraction for "you are"
yore : time long past


