

Problem Words

a, an	The indefinite articles <i>a</i> and <i>an</i> refer to any person, place, or thing. Use <i>a</i> before a word that begins with a consonant sound. Use <i>an</i> before a word that begins with a vowel sound.	<u>a</u> banana; <u>an</u> apple When I am hungry, I like to eat <u>an</u> apple.
the	The definite article <i>the</i> points out a specific noun or pronoun. Use <i>the</i> with both singular and plural nouns.	<u>the</u> apple; <u>the</u> apples For a snack today, I am going to eat <u>the</u> apple Julio gave me.
accept	The verb <i>accept</i> means "to receive."	The club <u>accepted</u> her.
except	The preposition <i>except</i> means "excluding."	They all went <u>except</u> James.
addition	The noun <i>addition</i> means "the act or process of adding."	Sarah thought the <u>addition</u> problems were hard.
edition	The noun <i>edition</i> means "a single copy from a group of copies of a publication issued at one time."	Matt has the latest <u>edition</u> of our math book.
affect	The verb <i>affect</i> means "to influence."	The rain <u>affected</u> my plans.
effect	The verb <i>effect</i> means "to cause to happen." The noun <i>effect</i> means "result."	They <u>effected</u> many changes. What <u>effect</u> did Miguel's home run have on the game?
allude	The verb <i>allude</i> means "to make an indirect reference."	My mother <u>alluded</u> to my laziness.
elude	The verb <i>elude</i> means "to escape or evade."	The dog <u>eluded</u> the boys who were chasing him.

Problem Words

allusion	The noun <i>allusion</i> means "an indirect reference."	His <u>allusion</u> to the party made me happy.
elusion	The noun <i>elusion</i> means "the act of escaping."	Clark's <u>elusion</u> meant we didn't have enough players for our team.
illusion	The noun <i>illusion</i> means "a mistaken impression of reality."	Cody is under the <u>illusion</u> that he isn't good at sports.
bad	<i>Bad</i> is an adjective. It can be used after linking verbs like <i>look</i> and <i>feel</i> . <i>Badly</i> is an adverb.	This was a <u>bad</u> day. I feel <u>bad</u> . I sing <u>badly</u> .
bazaar	The noun <i>bazaar</i> means "a market consisting of a street lined with shops and stalls."	Brittany's project is a diorama of a medieval <u>bazaar</u> .
bizarre	The adjective <i>bizarre</i> means "strikingly odd or fantastic."	Andy's excuse for not doing his homework is the most <u>bizarre</u> I ever heard.
berry	The noun <i>berry</i> means "a small, juicy, fleshy fruit."	For dessert, we had <u>berries</u> and cream.
bury	The verb <i>bury</i> means "to place in the ground" or "to conceal."	The dog <u>buried</u> his bone in the backyard.
beside	<i>Beside</i> means "next to."	He is sitting <u>beside</u> me.
besides	<i>Besides</i> means "in addition to."	Who, <u>besides</u> Al, is going?
between	<i>Between</i> refers to two people or things.	I sat <u>between</u> Kyle and Pam.
among	<i>Among</i> refers to three or more people or things.	Talk <u>among</u> the four of you.
does	<i>Does</i> is a form of the verb <i>to do</i> .	Ramon <u>does</u> not like broccoli.
doze	The verb <i>doze</i> means "to sleep lightly."	Grampa often <u>dozes</u> while he watches TV.

Problem Words

ensure	The verb <i>ensure</i> means "to make sure or certain."	His plan <u>ensured</u> our success.
insure	The verb <i>insure</i> means "to provide or arrange insurance for." The verb <i>insure</i> also means "to make sure or certain."	Clara <u>insured</u> her car as soon as she bought it. Wearing a helmet <u>insures</u> your safety on a bike.
fairy	The noun <i>fairy</i> means "a tiny imaginary creature resembling a human being."	Gwen doesn't really believe in the tooth <u>fairy</u> any more.
ferry	The noun <i>ferry</i> means "a boat used to transport people or items across a body of water."	Aidee missed the <u>ferry</u> that took us to the island.
farther	Use <i>farther</i> to refer to physical distance.	Which town is <u>farther</u> away?
further	Use <i>further</i> in all other cases.	Please read <u>further</u> by tomorrow.
fewer	Use <i>fewer</i> or <i>fewest</i> with plural nouns.	<u>Fewer</u> boys are here today.
less	Use <i>less</i> or <i>least</i> with singular nouns.	There is <u>less</u> water in the lake than there was last year. I have the <u>least</u> money.
good	<i>Good</i> is an adjective.	The weather looks <u>good</u> .
well	<i>Well</i> is usually an adverb. It is used as an adjective only when it means "healthy."	She swims <u>well</u> . Do you feel <u>well</u> ?
its	<i>Its</i> is a possessive pronoun.	The dog wagged <u>its</u> tail.
it's	<i>It's</i> is a contraction of <i>It is</i> .	<u>It's</u> cold today.
lie	<i>Lie</i> means "to rest, recline, or remain in one place."	The dog <u>lies</u> on its bed.
lay	<i>Lay</i> means "to put or place something."	Please <u>lay</u> the books here.

Problem Words

medal	The noun <i>medal</i> means "flat piece of metal stamped with a design or an inscription."	Claudia is proud of her gold <u>medal</u> .
meddle	The verb <i>meddle</i> means "to interfere."	Please don't <u>meddle</u> in the misunderstanding between Laura and Madison.
metal	The noun <i>metal</i> means "any of a group of elements that usually have a shiny surface, are generally good conductors of heat and electricity, and can be melted or fused, hammered into thin sheets, or drawn into wires."	My grandfather likes to cook with a <u>metal</u> pan.
mettle	The noun <i>mettle</i> means "courage and fortitude."	Eric showed his <u>mettle</u> when he won the marathon.
much	Use <i>much</i> with uncountable things.	The storm caused <u>much</u> trouble.
many	Use <i>many</i> with countable things.	<u>Many</u> people had trouble getting home.
pair	The noun <i>pair</i> means "two matched persons or items." The verb <i>pair</i> means "to arrange in sets of two" or "to form pairs."	Remember to bring an extra <u>pair</u> of socks. We <u>paired</u> off for the basketball practice.
pare	The verb <i>pare</i> means "to remove the outer covering."	Libby <u>pared</u> the apples before she put them in the pie.
pear	A <i>pear</i> is a kind of fruit.	Dave enjoys a ripe <u>pear</u> .

Problem Words

peace	The noun <i>peace</i> means "the absence of war or other hostilities."	A period of <u>peace</u> followed the end of the fighting.
piece	The noun <i>piece</i> means "a portion or part of something."	Katie had a big <u>piece</u> of cake.
peas	<i>Peas</i> are the seeds of a certain plant, which are eaten as a vegetable.	Bob thinks <u>peas</u> are a treat.
raise	<i>Raise</i> means "to move something up," "to increase something," or "to grow something."	Please <u>raise</u> the window. The store <u>raised</u> its prices. Maggie <u>raises</u> sunflowers.
rise	<i>Rise</i> means "to get up or go up."	The elevator <u>rises</u> slowly.
real	<i>Real</i> is an adjective	The ring is made of <u>real</u> gold.
really	<i>Really</i> is an adverb.	He is a <u>really</u> good skater.
shall	<i>Shall</i> is used with <i>I</i> and <i>we</i> in formal English.	We <u>shall</u> be there tomorrow.
will	<i>Will</i> is used in all other cases.	He <u>will</u> go tomorrow.
shore	The noun <i>shore</i> means "the land along the edge of an ocean."	The fishing boats sailed close to the <u>shore</u> .
sure	The adjective <i>sure</i> means "certain."	I am <u>sure</u> it will not rain tomorrow.
surely	The adverb <i>surely</i> means "certainly."	He <u>surely</u> is an excellent cook.
their	<i>Their</i> is a possessive pronoun.	<u>Their</u> coats are on the bed.
there	<i>There</i> is an adverb. It also begins sentences.	Is Carlos <u>there</u> ? <u>There</u> is my book.
they're	<i>They're</i> is a contraction of <i>they are</i> .	<u>They're</u> going to the store.

Problem Words

theirs	<i>Theirs</i> is a possessive pronoun.	This cat is <u>theirs</u> .
there's	<i>There's</i> is a contraction of <i>there is</i> .	<u>There's</u> his tag.
them	<i>Them</i> is not a demonstrative pronoun.	<u>These</u> (<i>not Them</i>) are mine.
trader	The noun <i>trader</i> means "a dealer."	The <u>trader</u> brought food to the settlers.
traitor	The noun <i>traitor</i> means "someone who betrays a country or a cause."	Only a <u>traitor</u> would sell secrets to the enemy.
vary	The verb <i>vary</i> means "to modify or alter."	The cook <u>varied</u> our choices at lunch.
very	The adverb <i>very</i> means "extremely."	That was a <u>very</u> good meal.
whose	<i>Whose</i> is an interrogative pronoun. <i>Whose</i> is also a possessive pronoun.	<u>Whose</u> tickets are those? Steve, <u>whose</u> book I borrowed, is here today.
who's	<i>Who's</i> is a contraction for <i>who is</i> .	<u>Who's</u> that woman?
your	<i>Your</i> is a possessive pronoun.	Are these <u>your</u> glasses?
you're	<i>You're</i> is contraction for <i>you are</i> .	<u>You're</u> late again!