

Words Often Confused B

Review the words often confused covered on pages 330-33 of your textbook for information on the correct usage and spelling of the following words:

cloths, clothes *hear, here*
coarse, course *its, it's*
desert, dessert *lead, led, lead*

EXERCISE A In each of the following sentences, underline the correct word in parentheses.

Example 1. Who put the directions for the microwave oven in (*hear, here*)?

1. A fabric store sells (*cloths, clothes*) of many different types, patterns, and colors.
2. Sea salt is larger and more (*coarse, course*) than regular table salt.
3. What is the largest (*desert, dessert*) in the Southern Hemisphere?
4. Yes, this tiny device actually helps people to (*hear, here*) better.
5. The coach has (*lead, led*) her team to victory again!
6. Margarita wants to take a (*coarse, course*) in welding at a community college.
7. Maria has read her favorite book so many times that (*its, it's*) pages are wearing thin.
8. Wouldn't fruit salad make a nice (*desert, dessert*) for this meal?
9. "I don't see that mouse now," thought the cat, "but I know that (*its, it's*) been here."
10. Nolan said, "I like this pencil because the (*lead, led*) is not too soft."

EXERCISE B In each of the following sentences, cross out the word that is misused and then write the correct word above it. If a sentence is already correct, write C on the line provided.

- Example** _____ 1. Kendra prides herself on the stylishness of her ^{clothes}~~cloths~~.
- _____ 11. The film *Lawrence of Arabia* is set mainly in the dessert in Arabia.
- _____ 12. You may put that wet bathing suit anywhere but hear.
- _____ 13. Who will lead the group through the forest?
- _____ 14. Its a pity that Sean couldn't join us for the party.
- _____ 15. This woolen fabric is very course, isn't it?

Review A: Subject-Verb Agreement

EXERCISE A In each of the following sentences, the verb agrees with its subject. On the line before each sentence, write *S* if the subject and verb are singular or *P* if the subject and verb are plural.

Example *S* 1. Chuck or Tyrell takes out the trash.

- _____ 1. They have been cheering for the team.
- _____ 2. A letter from your aunt and uncle is on the table.
- _____ 3. All of the water in the pail was leaking onto the floor.
- _____ 4. A woman and two men were sharing a taxi.
- _____ 5. Here's your ticket to the game.
- _____ 6. An after-school snack for your friends is in the refrigerator.
- _____ 7. Eartha and you have been working hard all afternoon.
- _____ 8. There's a green coat in the closet.
- _____ 9. Jefferson's plans don't make sense to us.
- _____ 10. Most of the beach has been cleaned.

EXERCISE B Underline the subject in each of the following sentences. Then, underline the form of the verb in parentheses that agrees with the subject.

Example 1. (*Is*, *Are*) there any beans left for me?

11. Most of my work (*is, are*) finished.
12. Songs from the movie (*has, have*) been on my mind all day.
13. Either his grandparents or his father (*comes, come*) from Japan.
14. (*There's, There are*) two big trucks parked out front.
15. Our trip to the western states (*begins, begin*) tomorrow.
16. Lucia and Marcus (*lives, live*) on a farm.
17. Many of the citizens (*agrees, agree*) with the mayor.
18. (*Is, Are*) there some empty seats up front?
19. It (*doesn't, don't*) really matter.
20. Either the Germans or the Italians (*is, are*) playing soccer tomorrow.

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EXERCISE A: Underline the subject in each of the following sentences. Then, underline the correct verb in parentheses.

EXAMPLES 1. (Are, Is) the blades on the lawn mower sharp enough?

2. There (are, is) a colorful parrot in that picture.

1. Luckily, there (are, is) more glasses in the cabinet.
2. Here (are, is) my suggestion for our project on the Brazilian rain forest.
3. There (was, were) two baby robins and some eggs in a nest.
4. (Do, Does) these jalapeño peppers taste good in chili?
5. Beneath the bridge (was, were) a family of sea gulls.
6. Here (are, is) the key to the mailbox.
7. (Was, Were) she planning on a raise in her allowance?
8. (Are, Is) that boy in the yard a friend of yours?
9. (Has, Have) the slides on the Caribbean islands been shown yet?
10. (Do, Does) these potatoes cook for one hour or for thirty minutes?

EXERCISE B: Underline the subject in each of the following sentences. Then, underline the correct verb in parentheses.

EXAMPLE 1. (Is, Are) the camels in the animal park from Asia or Africa?

1. Here (is, are) the names of the Russian ballet dancers.
2. There (is, are) some jobs for you this weekend.
3. (Has, Have) your parents given their permission?
4. (Is, Are) the pita bread in the refrigerator still fresh?
5. Here (is, are) the rules for the game.
6. There (was, were) a big white bug under the rock.
7. (Do, Does) those old cars still race at the track?
8. (Do, Does) Jobelle know that there is only one piece of banana bread left?
9. (Was, Were) they studying about the El Niño weather patterns that have affected the West Coast?
10. (Has, Have) Marvel thought of a good name for her cat yet?