

Name _____

Date _____

Exercises for Tutorial 9. Homonyms

Exercise 1

Instructions: Add **too**, **to**, or **two** in the following sentences. The first sentence has been done for you.
Type or write in the answer spaces.

1. **To** tell you the truth, I'm **too** tired **to** write even **two** more words.
2. I keep _____ caged snakes near my bed _____ remind me of what it is like
_____ be with _____ many lawyers.
3. If _____ turtle doves aren't already _____ many Christmas presents, you're probably
_____ greedy _____ be my true love.
4. _____ guys go into a bar _____ try and tell a joke until people get _____ tired
of listening _____ them.
5. It takes _____ years of lessons _____ learn _____ play basic piano, which is
_____ long for most people.
6. Try _____ believe me when I tell you that the car in the swimming pool was an accident.

Exercise 2

Instructions: The paragraph below contains sentences with errors in the use of the homonyms **too**, **to**, and **two**. Underline the homonyms, and write the correct word after the wrong one. The first sentence has been done for you. *Type, write, or copy-paste the passage into the answer box. Then underline the homonyms; make any corrections in **bold**.*

To **Two** years ago, I wrote a letter too **to** the City Pest Extermination Company. I wanted to complain that my house still contained to many rats for my family's comfort after one of their exterminators visited. Too my dismay, the letter was not answered for to months. Even my daughter, who used to think that rats were "cute," is now to scared to go into her room at night, as the rats have taken over. I, to, am afraid because two rats appeared last night in the kitchen. Unfortunately, our to pets—our dog, Smoky, and cat, Tiger—feel this way to.

Exercise 3

Instructions: Add either **it's** or **its** in the following sentences. The first sentence has been done for you. *Type or write in the answer spaces.*

1. **It's** good to see you again. _____ been too long.
2. Juan may not want to believe it, but _____ obvious that his car is making _____ last cross-country trip.
3. "_____ not polite to point," said Greg, pointing at Ricky.
4. _____ not surprising to see the Warriors winning again, but _____ great all the same.

5. Never let a pit bull sink _____ teeth into your leg,
or you'll find out that _____ pretty darn painful.

Exercise 4

Instructions: The paragraph below contains sentences with errors in the use of the homonyms *it's* and *its*. Underline the homonyms, and write the correct word after the wrong one. The first sentence has been done for you. *Type, write, or copy-paste the passage into the answer box. Then underline the homonyms; make any corrections in **bold**.*

Its **it's** good to see that today's generation hasn't lost all interest in poetry. While poetry seemed to be having it's last heyday in the mid-1960's, today its starting to appear everywhere from bathroom walls to MTV. Poetry may owe much of it's current popularity to hip-hop. The Brew Krew, a group from the tough streets of Las Vegas, Nevada, even includes lines from T.S. Eliot in it's most recent release.

Exercise 5

Instructions: Add *they're*, *there*, or *their* in the following sentences. The first sentence has been done for you. *Type or write in the answer spaces.*

1. Your parents are coming over for dinner and **they're** bringing **their** new puppy.
2. _____ are many ways to cook a tortoise, but you probably shouldn't talk about any of them.
3. Aren't _____ laws against that?

4. The judges made _____ final decision at midnight.
5. _____ must be a place where people like your relatives can practice _____ strange hobbies.
6. _____ is a time and a place for performing rap, but _____ aren't many people who think Sunday Mass is one of them.

Exercise 6

Instructions: The paragraph below contains sentences with errors in the use of the homonyms *they're*, *there*, and *their*. Underline the homonyms, and write the correct word after the wrong one. The first sentence has been done for you. *Type, write, or copy-paste the passage into the answer box. Then underline the homonyms; make any corrections in bold.*

Their **There** isn't any good reason why the educational system can't be reformed so that this generation of college students, many of whom hold down full-time jobs while attending school, can finish there **their** degrees in four years, as their parents' generation did. According to Soledad Bristow, director of San Juan University, "Today's students know that their not really going to graduate in four years, and often expect to wait as long as six." While many pundits act as if their is some epidemic of laziness going around, many students who work and take they're studies seriously know that there facing new challenges that the system does not accommodate.

Exercise 7

Instructions: Add **who's** or **whose** in the following sentences. The first sentence has been done for you.
Type or write in the answer spaces.

1. **Who's** _____ afraid of the big bad wolf?
2. _____ smelly Vans sneakers are those?
3. I know a woman _____ perfect for you.
4. James is a man _____ not afraid to cry, particularly if he is the one _____ been hurt.
5. You used to say I was the one _____ hair was too short. _____ laughing now, baldy.

Exercise 8

Instructions: The paragraph below contains sentences with errors in the use of the homonyms **who's** and **whose**. Underline the homonyms, and write the correct word after the wrong one. The first sentence has been done for you. *Type, write, or copy-paste the passage into the answer box. Then underline the homonyms; make any corrections in bold.*

Jamil, the director of janitorial services, whose **who's** been working here for ten years, would like to know whose **who's** been leaving the candy wrappers all over the floor in the men's restroom. He would also like to know who's blue suede shoes were left in the freezer and who's purple tie was found floating in the Brita water pitcher. The sooner we find out whose behind these silly pranks, the easier it will be to get back to normal.

Exercise 9

Instructions: Add **you're** or **your** in the following sentences. The first sentence has been done for you. *Type or write in the answer spaces.*

1. After the tune-up, **your** car is getting better gas mileage now.
2. _____ so beautiful!
3. _____ mother-in-law called to say that _____ welcome to come over for dinner.
4. Don't use _____ cell phone while driving.
5. _____ writing keeps getting better, which shows that _____ practicing a lot.

Exercise 10

Instructions: The paragraph below contains sentences with errors in the use of the homonyms **you're** and **your**. Underline the homonyms, and write the correct word after the wrong one. The first sentence has been done for you. *Type, write, or copy-paste the passage into the answer box. Then underline the homonyms; make any corrections in **bold**.*

Your **You're** not going to believe this, but until yesterday, you're **your** car was just fine. It was only when I let you're sister borrow it that most of the damage that your so upset about occurred. I admit that I'm responsible for smashing in your headlights and for the moose antlers stuck in you're front bumper, but it was your sister who spilled the coffee on the steering wheel. I'm sure your pretty angry with both of us, especially you're sister, but please try to understand. After all, I'm still your best friend, right?

Exercise 11

Instructions: Add **affect** or **effect** in the following sentences. The first sentence has been done for you.
Type or write in the answer spaces.

1. Critics have observed how television has a strong effect on young people.
2. My lack of sleep can _____ my performance on the final exam.
3. Falling on his head had a bad _____ on Greg's memory.
4. The California budget will surely _____ significant improvements on our campus.
5. Alice's brownies did not have any _____ on me.
6. The early frost will undoubtedly _____ the tomato harvest this year.

Exercise 12

Instructions: The paragraph below contains sentences with errors in the use of the homonyms *affect* and *effect*. Underline the homonyms, and write the correct word after the wrong one. The first sentence has been done for you. *Type, write, or copy-paste the passage into the answer box. Then underline the homonyms; make any corrections in bold.*

Although many marijuana users believe smoking pot does not have long-term health risk affects **effects**, scientific research indicates that marijuana use can cause many different health problems. When smoked, marijuana begins to effect users almost immediately and can last for one to three hours. When it is eaten in food, such as baked in brownies and cookies, the affects take longer to begin but usually last longer. Some of the short-term affects of marijuana include distorted perception, problems with memory and learning, loss of coordination, trouble with thinking, increased heart rate, and reduced blood pressure. There are also long-term affects. Marijuana contains more carcinogenic hydrocarbons than tobacco smoke. Because marijuana smokers usually inhale deeper and hold the smoke in their lungs longer than tobacco smokers, their lungs are affected since they are exposed to those carcinogenic properties longer. In fact, many researchers believe that marijuana smoking overall has a more harmful affect on the lungs than smoking tobacco.