

Writing Centre

Commonly Misused Words

Word	Description
Accept	To receive
Except	To exclude
Affect	To alter or change
Effect	The result of change
Alternately	Repeating after another
Alternatively	Alternative, various options
Assure	To guarantee
Ensure	To make sure
Insure	Referring to insurance
Compliment	To give praise
Complement	Goes well with something else
Counsel	Guidance/advice
Council	Assembly e.g. Student Council
Desert	Dry, sandy place
Dessert	Course following dinner
Farther	Refers to distance
Further	Means more
Immigrate	Enter a country
Emigrate	Leave a country
Its	Possessive e.g. its wheels
It's	It is
No	Opposite of yes
Know	Something known/learned
Principal	Head of school; also sum of money
Principle	E.g. moral principles
Sight	Something you see
Site	Place/location

Word	Description
Cite	Quote
Then	What comes next
Than	Used for comparisons
There	Place/location
Their	Possessive/belonging to them
They're	They are
To	Preposition describing a relationship to something
Two	The number 2
Too	Also, or excess e.g. Too many
Weather	E.g. rain, snow, sunny etc.
Whether	Either/or
Who's	Who is?
Whose	Possessive question
Your	Possessive/belonging to you
You're	You are

Resources:

noslang.com

"Commonly Misused and Misspelled Words." (n.d.). Retrieved from
<http://www.noslang.com/spelling.php>

wsuonline.weber.edu

"Commonly Misspelled Words." (n.d.) Retrieved from
<http://wsuonline.weber.edu/wrh/words.htm>

squidoo.com

"Misused Words." (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.squidoo.com/misused-words>

suite101.com

"Commonly Misused Words." (n.d.). Retrieved from
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