

Commonly Confused Words -- Set 3

affect vs. effect

1. **affect** [verb] – to have influence; Absences may affect your grades.
to produce a change.

Tip: Try substituting the verb *affect* with the verb *change* to confirm it's a verb.

Synonyms: sway, modify, alter,

2. **effect** [noun] – consequence, results, The effect of allergies is severe.
outcome

Tip: Try substituting the noun *effect* with the noun *consequence* to confirm it's a noun. Also, since it is a noun, you can put *an* or *the* before it.

Monday: Fill in the blank with the correct use of affect and effect.

1. I don't think it will have any _____ on the outcome.
2. What was the _____ of his decision?
3. Do not allow this incident to _____ your decision.
4. The movie had a long lasting _____ on my thoughts.
5. How did the snow day _____ the students?
6. Smoking cigarettes could _____ the lungs of smokers and others.
7. Studying for quizzes and exams can _____ a student's final grades.
8. Carpooling may _____ the environment in a positive manner.
9. The D.A.R.E. program had a great _____ on the student population.
10. The _____ of the earthquake was felt many miles away.

Write a sentence with *affect*:

Write a sentence with *effect*:

capital vs. capitol

capital:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. a city that serves as a seat of government | Example: Austin is the <u>capital</u> of Texas. |
| 2. wealth in the form of money or property | Example: Do you have any <u>capital</u> invested in her new business? |
| 3. the type of letter used at the beginning of a sentence, a proper noun or adjective. | Example: Always begin a sentence with a <u>capital</u> letter! |

capitol – refers to the **building** in which a legislative assembly meets.

Example: As a field trip, we took a tour of the capitol building.

Tuesday: Fill in the blanks with the correct use of capital and capitol.

1. Juneau is the _____ of Alaska.
2. The dome of the United States _____ may well be the most famous man-made landmark in America.
3. _____ is the money a person or business has, not including debts.
4. A _____ is a place that houses a government's legislative branch.
5. The first letter of every major word in a title should begin with a _____ letter.
6. The _____ is the main building of the US Congress.

Write a sentence with *capital*.

Write a sentence with *capitol*.

are vs. our

1. **are** – a present tense form of the **verb** “to be.”

Example: The Smiths are very wealthy people. (*are* is the verb of the sentence)

2. **our** - of or belonging to us – shows possession

Example: Our house is over there. (the house belongs to us)

Wednesday - Fill in the blanks with the correct use of *are* and our.

1. I think we've lost _____ way.
2. Do you know how lucky you _____?
3. The fire was reported in _____ local paper.
4. Unfortunately, _____ apartment house had no yard.
5. _____ you traveling this summer?
6. I hope _____ lima beans grow!
7. Because it rained so hard last night, _____ house flooded.
8. _____ plans for the birthday party _____ a surprise.
9. It is my hope that we _____ ready for the talent show.
10. This is _____ first trip to the Bahamas!

Write a sentence with *are*.

Write a sentence with *our*.

then vs. than

then: 1: at that time

Wait until then.

2: soon after that

We then walked to the door.

3: according to that

Is your mind made up, then?

4: necessary result

If you were there, then you saw me.

than –introduces a comparison

She is taller than me.

Thursday: Fill in the blanks with the correct use of *then* and *than*.

1. First wash your hands, _____ set the table.
2. Antonio is taller _____ Gabe.
3. Other _____ soccer practice, I have no plans.
4. My life was a lot simpler back _____.
5. Finish your homework, _____ we can go for a bike ride.
6. My little brother knows so much more about Star Wars _____ I do.
7. Kasey would rather eat broccoli _____ touch a single green bean.
8. Staying away from chocolate is easier said _____ done.
9. Sarah ran faster _____ Nikki.
10. Add two eggs, _____ stir until smooth.

Write a sentence with *then*.

Write a sentence with *than*.
