

Name _____

Commonly Confused Words

Study Guide #1

1. **a, an**--Use **a** before any word or acronym beginning with a consonant sound. Use **an** before any word beginning with a vowel sound, regardless of whether the word begins with a vowel.

a light-water reactor; **an** LWR; **a** HEPA filter (because HEPA is pronounced as a word rather than as letters); **a** hypothesis; **an** hour.

Write two sentences using “a”:

Write two sentences using “an”:

2. **affect, effect**--To **affect** is to influence or change. An **effect** is a result or an influence.

Ingesting alcohol **affects** her driving competence.

His looks have no **effect** on his personality.

Write two sentences using “affect”:

Write two sentences using “effect”:

3. **A lot, alot**:

A lot: (two words)—many

Alot: Not the correct form. (Remember: you don’t write **alittle**, so don’t write **alot**).

Write two sentences using “A lot”:

4. **Already, All ready**:

Already: previously

All ready: “completely ready” or “everyone is ready”

I’ve seen that movie **already**.

Are we all ready to go?

Write two sentences using “already”:

Write two sentences using “all ready”:

5. All right, alright:

All right: (two words)—Everything OK

Alright: There is NO SUCH WORD AS ALRIGHT

Write two sentences using “All right”:

Practice with Commonly Confused Words

Circle the correct word.

1. I've always wanted to have (a/an) answer to that question.
2. Will this cold medicine (affect/effect) my driving?
3. Are we supposed to get (alot/a lot) of snow tomorrow?
4. Are we (already/all ready) to wrap Christmas presents?
5. I dropped a book on my toe, but I'm (alright/all right).
6. Don't forget (a/an) umbrella; it's supposed to rain.
7. His flirting has no (affect/effect) on her.
8. That farm has (alot/a lot) of cats.
9. Have you done your chores (already/all ready)?
10. How will everything be (alright/all right)?
11. Seniors should choose (a/an) university to go to.
12. They say that eating greasy foods does not (affect/effect) your complexion.
13. Do any foods have an (affect/effect) on your complexion?
14. There are (alot/a lot) of ways to get the right answer.
15. The snow could (affect/effect) our travel plans.
16. Weather usually has an (affect/effect) on travel plans.
17. The cloudy skies (affected/effect) her mood.
18. Sunny skies usually have a positive (affect/effect) on her mood.
19. I've (already/all ready) cleaned my room.
20. Have you seen that movie (already/all ready)?

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