

CONFUSABLES

Accept (willingly receive): He **accepted** my gift with happiness.

Except (not including): All **except** him were present.

Expect (to think that something will probably happen): He **expected** me to drive him home.

Access (right or opportunity to reach or use or visit): People living in urban areas have **access** to technology.

Excess (more than enough): There is **excess** sugar in the tea.

Adapt (adjust): Try to **adapt** to the changing circumstances.

Adept (skilful): He is **adept** in the art of flattery.

Adopt (legally take into a relationship): My aunt **adopted** a boy last week.

Addition (to add): I am not good at **addition**.

Edition (copies of a book, newspaper etc. issued at one time): The first edition of this book was published in 1996.

Affect (to produce an effect on): The shock **affected** her badly.

Effect (result of an action): My advice had no **effect** on him.

Advice (n) (suggestion): We must follow the **advice** of our teachers.

Advise (v) (suggest): I **advised** him to see a doctor.

Artist (one who practises one of the fine arts such as music, painting etc.): He is an **artist** and paints nice pictures.

Artisan (skilled manual worker): Many **artisans** have participated in this fair.

Band (flat, thin strip put round something; group of musicians): I tied the papers with a rubber **band**.

Bend (force something straight into a curve or angle): He **bends** down to tie his shoelace.

Bear (to tolerate; a large animal): I cannot **bear** this insult.

Beer (an alcoholic drink): I do not drink **beer**.

Beat (strike repeatedly; defeat): The rain **beat** loudly against the roof.

Bit (past tense of bite, a small quantity): A dog **bit** me in my leg.

Beet (a vegetable): **Beetroot** is good for our health.

Brake (a device for stopping vehicle): The driver applied the **brakes** in time.

Break (separate into pieces under a blow or strain; interval): Children often **break** my window glass while playing cricket.

Carrier (person or thing that carries): **Carrier** of a bicycle cannot bear a heavy load.

Career (profession): I want to make a **career** in medical field.

Cease (stop): They have **ceased** the work.

Seize (take hold of forcibly or suddenly): She **seized** the gun from him.

Cereal (grain used for food): We should include **cereals** in our daily diet.

Serial (a series): I do not like to watch TV **serials**.

Cheap (not costly): This jacket is quite **cheap**.

Chip (thin piece): I like to eat potato **chips** during my fasts.

Cheat (deceive or trick): Many hawkers **cheat** people.

Chit (a note): Students were copying the answers from the **chits** in the exam.

Cite (quote or mention): He **cited** many examples to prove his point.

Sight (view): He saw a strange **sight** yesterday.

Site (a place for some activity): This is a good **site** for the school.

Complacent (self-satisfied): My aged uncle is too **complacent**.

Complaisant (willing to please): He is so **complaisant** that he never objects anyone.

Complement (thing that completes): This sweet dish **complements** our meal.

Compliment (a formal greeting): I **complimented** him for his good performance.

Conscious (aware of): Youngsters have become much **conscious** of their looks.

Conscience (moral sense of right and wrong): My **conscience** does not allow me to take bribe.

Coarse (rough): The road to village was **coarse**.

Course (series of lessons): We had finished our **course** by the end of January.

Coast (seashore): They have rented a cottage on the **coast**.

Cost (price): I cannot afford the **cost** of this house.

Decease (death; die): His **decease** caused great hardship to his family.

Disease (illness): He is suffering from a serious **disease**.

Decent (good or acceptable): He showed a **decent** behaviour in the party.

Descent (to go downwards): The **descent** from the hill was easy.

Dissent (to disagree): I gave my **dissent** to the proposal.

Deep (not shallow): The water was not very **deep**.

Dip (put something into liquid for short time and take out): She **dipped** her feet into the water.

Desert (dry and sandy land): The Sahara is the largest **desert** in the world.

Dessert (sweet dish at the end of the meal): We had ice-cream as **dessert**.

Dose (amount of medicine): Give him a **dose** of medicine every four hours.

Doze (short light sleep; sleep lightly): He was **dozing** in the class.

Elicit (draw out facts etc.): He could not **elicit** any information from him.

Illicit (illegal): He was arrested for an **illicit** sale of liquor.

Eminent (distinguished, notable): His father is an **eminent** scientist.

Imminent (about to happen): His promotion is **imminent**.

Eligible (fit to be chose): I am not **eligible** for the post.

Legible (clear enough to read): **Legible** handwriting leaves good impression on others.

Feel (experience): I **feel** cold today.

Fill (make or become full; occupy completely): The waiter **filled** the empty glass with water.

Fair (stalls, amusements for public entertainment; white): We purchased some traditional dresses from the **fair**.

Fare (price of a journey on public transport): Air **fares** are getting higher day by day.

Found (past tense of find): I **found** hundred-rupee note lying on the road.

Fond (like): Children are **fond** of chocolates.

Fridge (short form of refrigerator): I opened the **fridge** to take out the food.

Freeze (turn into ice or another solid by cold): It is so cold that water **freezes** before it reaches the tap.

Grate (scrape things like vegetables): My mother asked me to **grate** cheese.
Great (very important): It is a **great** opportunity for me to work in this company.

Heard (past tense and past participle of hear): I **heard** someone knocking at the door.
Herd (a large number of animals kept together): I saw a **herd** of cows grazing in the field.

Hair (thin strands of head): I must get my **hair** cut.

Heir (legal holder of a property): She was the **heir** to a fortune left by her uncle.

Hare (rabbit): **Hare** is generally found in jungles.

Hear (to listen): Can you **hear** that noise?

Here (in this place): Come **here**, please.

Heel (part of the foot): My **heel** is aching.

Heal (to cure): The wound will take many days to **heal**.

Hill (lower than a mountain): We went to Girnar **Hills**.

Idol (statue): The temple had magnificent **idols** of many gods and goddesses.

Ideal (perfect): This is an **ideal** place to party.

Idle (without work; lazy): Time is precious, so do not sit **idle**.

Its (possessive form of it): I have a car. **Its** colour is black.

It's (contraction of "it is"): It's very hot today.

Later (afterwards): Raj reached the station **later** than Rahul.

Latter (last mentioned): Rashmi and Tina are sisters; the **latter** of the two sings better.

Lawn (an area of grass): The gardener is watering the **lawn**.

Loan (sum of money lent): John took a **loan** to buy a house.

Lone (single): He is the **lone** survivor of the accident.

Leave (go away from; permission to be absent from duty): He took a **leave** of 4 days.

Live (to stay): I **live** in a posh area.

Loose (not tight): Children should always wear **loose** clothes.

Lose (be deprived of esp. by negligence; become unable to find, follow or understand; be defeated in (a game, battle etc.)):

1. Where did you **lose** your bag?
2. Being absent-minded, I **lose** my way sometimes.
3. His team **loses** most of the time.

lessen (make less): Let us try to **lessen** the miseries of poor.

lesson (something to be learned): I have learnt a **lesson** from this experience.

mail (letters or parcels etc. carried by post; email): I have no **mail** today.

male (man): We have a **male**-dominated society.

meat (animal flesh as food): I do not eat **meat** as I am a vegetarian.

meet (come face to face): I want to **meet** your boss.

oral (related to mouth): Chewing tobacco can cause **oral** cancer in the long run.

aural (related to ear): I had an **aural** checkup today because of reduced hearing capacity.

patience (ability to bear delay; tolerance): We need to have **patience** to deal with children.

patients (people under treatment): Due to epidemic, all the hospitals are full of **patients**.

peace (mental calm; in a state of friendliness): The country is not at **peace** with its neighbour.

piece (a small part of a whole thing): I want a **piece** of bread.

pick (to choose): Students have to **pick** three courses.

peak (highest point, maximum): The holiday season is now at its **peak**.

plain (simple): I want **plain** water only.

plane (short form of aeroplane; flat surface): The **plane** took off at the right time.

price (the value or cost of a thing): What is the **price** of this book?

prize (reward): She won second **prize** in the beauty contest.

practice {repeated activity undertaken to improve a skill (n)}: You need a lot of **practice** to improve your English.

practise {do repeatedly to improve a skill (Brit.) (v)}: You should **practise** speaking English.

pray (to do prayer): I **pray** to God every day.

prey (an animal that is hunted by another animal for food): The tiger killed its **prey**.

precede (come or go before in order): Will my biology class **precede** my English class or come after it?

proceed (go forward or further; continue): The company decided to **proceed** with the project.

Principal (head of school; main): Our *principal* is a highly learned man.

Principle (personal code of conduct): He does not follow any set *principles*.

Quiet (silent): Be *quiet*, please.

Quit (give up): He *quit* smoking three years ago.

Quite (to some extent, rather; completely, entirely): You answered the question *quite* correctly.

Rare (not common): Chickenpox is *rare* among adults.

Rear (back part; to bring up): There are more empty seats at the *rear* of the hall.

Right (correct): He thinks that he is always *right*.

Write (mark a surface like paper with symbols, letters or words): It is boring to *write* long essays.

Rite (religious procedure): As per our religion, women cannot take part in burial *rites*.

Rich (having wealth): He is one of the *richest* people in the world.

Reach (arrive at a place): It took four days for the letter to *reach* me.

Root (the part of the plant which is underground): The *roots* of a banyan tree are deep.

Route (way taken from one place to another): Our school bus does not go by this *route*.

Sand (fine loose grains forming the seashores, deserts etc.): Children like to play with *sand*.

Send (convey): I will *send* you an email for the confirmation of date.

Sail (travel in boat or ship): Soon the ship *sailed* away and got out of sight.

Sale (act of selling): These goods are not for *sale*.

Sell (exchange or be exchanged for money): We want to *sell* our furniture before shifting.

Scene (view): I cannot describe the *scene* at the site of accident.

Seen (past participle of see): Have you *seen* my bag?

Sin (breaking of moral law): To kill cow is a *sin* in Hindu religion.

Shed (a small building specially for storage or shelter; to fall): Many trees *shed* their leaves in winter.

Shade (to protect from light and heat): Let us find a table in *shade*.

Skim (to go through quickly): I *skimmed* through the text to find the answer.

Scheme (plan): Many shops offer attractive *schemes* to raise the sale.

Snacks (small amount of food eaten between meals): I do not have habit of eating **snacks** between meals.

Snakes (an animal): Cobra is a poisonous **snake**.

Saw (past tense of see): I **saw** her in the library.

Show (point out): She **showed** me her photos.

Sow (plant with seeds): Farmers in my village **sow** seeds just before the monsoon.

Sore (painful): I have got **sore** throat.

Soar (fly or rise high): The plane **soars** high in the sky.

Sour (a taste): The milk has gone **sour**.

Soul (spiritual part of a person): The body dies, but the **soul** never dies.

Sole (only; bottom surface of foot or shoe): The **sole** of my shoe is torn.

Stationary (not moving): The sun is **stationary** and the earth moves around it.

Stationery (writing material): My uncle has a **stationery** shop.

Tail (hindmost part of an animal): The monkey uses its **tail** to jump from one tree to another.

Tale (a short story): Children are fond of fairy **tales**.

Tap (device by which the flow of liquid can be controlled): The **tap** in the kitchen is leaking for the last 2 days.

Tape (in cassettes and videos; used for tying up): I need some blank **tapes** to record some new songs.

Taste (flavour in mouth): I do not like the **taste** of Chinese dish.

Test (exam): My last **test** did not go well.

Temper (state of mind): Do not lose your **temper**.

Tamper (meddle with): After his death, they **tampered** with his will.

Their (belonging to them): **Their** house is very big.

There (at that place or position): **There** is a book on the table.

Through (going in one side and out of other): We are passing **through** a jungle.

Throw (to fling): We should not **throw** stones at animals.

Thorough (complete, not superficial): The doctor did a **thorough** examination of the patient.

Very (in high degree): I am **very** upset with your performance.

Vary (to change): Flowers **vary** in colour and size.

Wait (to wait for somebody): I had to **wait** for fifteen minutes for the bus.

Weight (load): Her doctor told her to reduce her **weight**.

Wet (not dry): Her cheeks were **wet** with tears.

Wander (go about from place to place aimlessly): We spent the morning **wandering** around the old part of the city.

Wonder (think; surprise): I **wonder** whether he will pass in the exam.

Want (desire): Everybody wants a peaceful life.

Won't (contraction of "will not"): They **won't** approve your proposal.

Warm (of fairly high temperature): I like to eat **warm** food.

Worm (a crawling creature): It is rainy so many **worms** have come out of the soil.

Waste (fail to use): We should not **waste** our time.

Waist (narrow middle part of the human figure): The soldier tied a belt round his **waist**.

West (a direction): The sun sets in the **west**.

Wear (to dress): You should **wear** only uniforms in school.

Were (past tense of are): They **were** playing in the ground.

Where (in or what place or position): **Where** are you going?

Weak (not strong): He is too **weak** to walk.

Week (period of seven days): I will go to Delhi next **week**.

Wick (string that burns in candle or oil lamp): The **wick** is still burning.

Weather (state of atmosphere): The **weather** is very pleasant.

Whether (giving alternative possibility): I am not sure **whether** I will be able to come.

Whole (all of something): She drank the **whole** bottle of milk.

Hole (empty space): There is a **hole** in my shoe.