**Rx: Spelling**

Spelling Lesson SP 1: Woman vs. Women

Spelling Lesson SP 2: Affect vs. Effect

Spelling Lesson SP 3: Then vs. Than

Spelling Lesson SP 4: It’s vs Its

Spelling Lesson SP 5: Would of

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Spelling Lesson SP 7: Other spelling errors

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**Lesson SP1: Woman vs. Women**

The distinction between “woman” and “women” confuses a lot of people.

But it’s simple:

Associate WOMAN with MAN. Both are singular.

Associate WOMEN with MEN. Both are plural.

Any time you write *woman* or *women*, ask yourself if you would use *man* or *men*.

Now, you:

Find your misuse of *woman/women*. In the margin, write *man* or *men,* accordingly.

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**Lesson SP2: Affect vs. Effect**

Affect is the VERB.

Effect is the NOUN.

This means:

Use AFFECT to mean “to change, to influence.” Like this:

Nothing affected the bear’s determination to stick his paws into the beehive.

Use EFFECT to mean “THE change, THE influence,.” Hint: Associate the E from THE with the E in EFFECT. In other words, if you can put THE in front of the word, the word you want is EFFECT, not AFFECT.

Like this: (Imagine that there is, or could be, the word THE in front of EFFECT in these sentences.)

The effects of communication are that people feel closer together.

Now, you:

Write three sentences for AFFECT; three for EFFECT. Be sure to vary these sentences. Use the sentence in your original piece as one of your sentences.

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**Lesson SP3: Then vs. Than**

Use THEN when you are telling a story, referring to the sequence in which things happen. First this, THEN that.

Use THAN when you are comparing: This is better THAN that.

**Remember:**

Associate THEN with WHEN.

Associate THAN with COMPARISON

Now, you:

Identify your misuse of then/then in your paper. In the margin, write WHEN or OMPARISON, according to which word you should have used.

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**Lesson SP4: It’s vs. its**

This is a tricky one. You’re thinking that *it’s* is the possessive form, right?

Well, it isn’t. *It’s* means only one thing: IT IS

You’re thinking: “But I’m using this word possessively. Don’t possessives take an apostrophe?”

Actually, when you think about the matter, you will realize that possessive PRONOUNS do NOT take apostrophes: *his, hers, yours, ours, theirs, and its.* This class of words (possessive pronouns) happens to NOT take the apostrophe form.

Now, you:

You probably used the apostrophe form when you should have used the no-apostrophe form. Go to your paper and write “his” in the margin. You will see that you used a possessive pronoun, one that, like “his” does NOT take an apostrophe.

Another way to look at it is this: If you can’t say “it is” in your sentence, then you don’t need an apostrophe.

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**Spelling Lesson SP5: The “would of” problem**

**This one is easy. There is no such thing as “would *of*.”**

**There is no such thing as “should of”or “could of” either.**

**You mean to say “would *have,*” “ should *have*,” or “could *have*.”**

**Here’s why you are confused:**

**In informal writing circumstances, and in speech, we use the contractions “would’ve,” “should’ve,” and “could’ve.” These contractions are not usually welcome in formal writing circumstances.**

**Now, you:**

**Locate your “of” mistake and write the proper form in the margin.**

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**Spelling Lesson SP6: You’re vs. your**

***You’re* means *you are*.**

***Your* is possessive. Use *your* when you could substitute *his* in the sentence.**

**Now, you:**

**Write *you are* or *his* in the sentence in question.**

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**Spelling Lesson SP7: There vs. Their vs. They’re**

Use *there* when you could substitute the word *here* in the sentence.

Use *their* when you could substitute the word *his* in the sentence.

Use *they’re* when you could substitute the words *they are* in the sentence.

**Practice**:

Rewrite the sentence(s) in which you made a mistake using *there*, *their*, or *they’re*. For each sentence, write the substitution word, as explained

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**Spelling** **Lesson 8: Other Spelling Errors**

Word that I misspelled:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(spelled correctly)

Write the word again, circling the part that I misspelled: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Kind of error: (Check any that apply)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| I before E trouble |  |
| Suffix trouble |  |
| Prefix trouble |  |
| Writing a single letter when there should be a double letter |  |
| Writing a double letter when there should be a single letter |  |
| Not joining words that should be joined |  |
| Joining words that should be separate |  |
| Mistaking one word for another (homonyms) |  |
| IOU trouble |  |
| S for C or C for S trouble |  |
| Ance/ence trouble |  |
| Able/ible trouble |  |
| ER, AR, OR trouble |  |
| *Per* for *pre* trouble |  |
| Other trouble (specify) |  |

Think of three other words that are spelled with a similar pattern:

Write the word five times, with one letter in each box. Hi-lite the troublesome part.

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If the word has a prefix or a suffix, write the word three more times. Hi-lite the prefix or suffix.

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