

# Ten Words You Need To Stop Misspelling

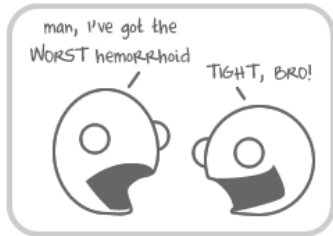
by The Oatmeal <http://theoatmeal.com>

**Lose**      **Loose**

↓                      ↓

Opposite of win      Not tight

Pretend the extra O is a hemorrhoid on the word. Hemorrhoids are never tight.



**Weird**      Not **wierd**

↓

*e then i*

↑

Every time you spell it this way, a dolphin gets run over by a jet ski.

Remember it like this:

We ... ir ... d =  
We ... are (ir) ... dangerous (d)  
to those dumb, dirty dolphins.



# Their

Their is possessive, meaning it owns something.



In this case, *their* is referring to the neighbors who own a cow.

# They're

They're is a contraction for "they are."



In this case, *they're* means "they are."

# There

There refers to a place or idea.

Use this form if you're unsure.



In this case, *there* is referring to a location.



It can also refer to something more abstract:  
*There* are many reasons to discipline a cow. For starters, a cow who eats rancid casserole will later become a host for alien parasites.

# Your You're

These both use the same rules as "their" and "they're."

*Your* is possessive. In other words, you own something.

*Your* new baby alien loves to cuddle, but he keeps crapping in your refrigerator at night.

This is referring to **your** alien and **your** refrigerator.

*You're* is a contraction of "you are."

*You're* definitely cleaning out the fridge tomorrow morning, assuming that little beast can't keep his bowels in check.

This translates to "you are definitely cleaning..."

# It's



This is a contraction for  
*it is* or *it has*.

If you can replace *it's* with *it is* or *it has*,  
then use *it's* in your sentence.

For example:

*It's* not fair that Randy gets to ride a wolverine  
to school, but I have to ride this stupid manatee!

Confused by  
apostrophes?

[Click here](#) to learn  
how to use them.



The wolverine knows only death,  
pain, and slaughter.  
Also, *its* thick, black fur is good for  
exfoliating the thighs during a long ride.



Using "it's" in this case would result in:  
"Also, *it is* thick black fur is good for..."  
which is wrong and anyone that does this  
deserves to be mauled by a wolverine.

# Its



This is indicating  
possession.

Use this when one  
thing owns another.

For example:

# Definitely

There is no A in "definitely."

To help you remember, use this:

*If you put an A in  
"definitely," then you're  
definitely an A-hole.*

# Effect Affect

Most of the time *effect* is a noun and *affect* is a verb.

If you're unsure, try substituting a different verb and see if it works.

{ As a child, he was affected by his parents.  
As a child, he was ~~affected~~ eaten by his parents. }

A verb works here so you should use "affected."



**C'MERE, RANDALL**  
I want to ingest you, just like I did your obnoxious parakeet



You ate him?!!  
But he sang only of love and beauty!  
You're a monster, Dad!

## Weather



Snow, rain, sunshine, typhoons.  
All that crap.

I'm the sun, I make super happy sunshine!  
Also, one day I'll explode and burn you all alive like the miserable little sausages that you are!

## Whether



*Whether* is used in this way:  
*Your correct usage of this word will determine whether or not I kick you in the hemorrhoids.*

Nothing gets a point across like a solid kick to the hemmies.

## A lot



Always leave a space here.  
*Remember, there's a lot of space in outer space.*

*Alot* is not a word.

You don't write *alittle*, *abunch*, *acantaloupe*, *aporkchop*  
So don't write *alot*.

# Then

is used for time.

*First I stole a panda bear, then we drank malt liquor together.*

↑  
The sequence of actions indicates time: first stealing the panda, and then drinking.

# Than

is used for comparison.

*I'm much better at holding my liquor than a panda bear.*

↑  
This is comparing a panda's drinking ability with your own, so you should use "than."



# The End.

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