150 Commonly Misspelled Words

a lot
absence
accommodate
achieve
acquire
address
advice
almost
apparent
arctic
argument
atheist
athlete
awful
becoming
beginning
believe
business
calendar
category
ceiling
cemetery
changeable
chief
collectible
column
coming
committed
conscience
conscious
consensus
coolly
deceive
definite(ly)
desperate
difference
dilemma
disappoint
disastrous
discipline
embarrass(ment)
equipment
exceed
exercise
exhilarate
existence
experience
fascinating
fiery
fluorescent
foreign
forward
friend
gauge
government
grateful
guarantee
guidance
harass
height
hierarchy
humorous
ignorance
immediate(ly)
independent
indispensable
inoculate
intelligence
jealous
jewelry
judgment
knowledge
leisure
liaison
library
license
maintenance
mathematics
medieval
memento
millennium
miniature
miniscule
mischievous
misspell
mysterious
necessary
neighbor
noticeable
nuclear
occasion(ally)
ocurrence
omission
original
pastime
perceive
perseverance
personal(ly)
personnel
piece
playwright
possess(ion)
precede
prejudice
presence
privilege
professor
promise
pronunciation
proof
publicly
questionnaire
quiet
quit
quite
really
recommend
reference
referred
relevant
religious
repetition
restaurant
rhyme
rhythm
scissors
secretary
separate
sergeant
shining
similar
sincerely
speech
successful
supersede
surely
surprise
therefore
thorough
through
truly
twelfth
tyranny
until
using
vacuum
weird
withhold
writing

Compiled from esdesk.com/vocabulary/misspelled-words, grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/misspelled_words.htm, grammar.about.com/od/words/a/misspelled200.htm, and oxforddictionaries.com/words/common-misspellings.
Revised 6/2015
Commonly Confused Words

affect / effect – In most cases affect is a verb, while effect is a noun.
- The tsunami affected the city. The effects of the tsunami are damaged buildings and injured people.
- You must do the assigned work for a class to affect you. If you do the work, then the class will have an effect on you.

its / it’s – Its is possessive, while it’s is a contraction of it is.
- It’s a dog. The dog has its bone.
- It’s difficult to see the deer in the bushes, but its head is by a big tree.

lose / loose – Lose is a verb, while loose is almost always an adjective.
- Don’t let your pets run loose in your backyard. You might lose them.
- Did you lose your belt? Yes, it was too loose and fell off.

their / they’re / there – Their is possessive. They’re is a contraction of they are. There can be a pronoun or an adverb.
- There are twelve people in the class. The class is held in there. Tomorrow is their last class, and they’re taking an exam.
- There is a chance that they’re going to the zoo in their car. Once they get there I think they’re going to walk with their stroller.

then / than – Then indicates a time or order, while than is used to compare two or more things.
- She likes math better than English.
- The subject comes first in a sentence, then the verb, and then the object.
- He is first and then you are second, because he arrived earlier than you.

to / too / two – To is used to form an infinitive verb and as a preposition that usually indicates movement. Too is a synonym for also, in addition, extremely, and very. Two is a number.
- She is going to the store. She needs to buy two gallons of milk, and she would like cereal too.
- I have two pet fish. I want to own more, but my fish tank is too small.

your / you’re – Your is possessive, while you’re is a contraction of you are.
- Your brother can be mean, but you’re very nice.
- You’re a good student when you finish your work.