Confused Words in English: Homophones

Sonjai Chaiburuan¹
Gavisarar Nilmongcol²
Thawatchai Chaibunruang²

Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to present words which make a lot of nonnative speakers of English confused, especially when they have to put them in the written form. In this paper, the emphasis is on homophones or words that sound alike. The writers do intend to make it easier for readers or learners of English as a foreign language to be able to easily differentiate and properly use such words. The meanings, sample sentences, and quizzes can be found in this paper.

Keywords: English confused words, homophones

Introduction

The writers have been teaching English for many years at the college level. We have found that one of the biggest problems for quite a few nonnative speakers of English including Thai students have been facing is the incorrect use of the English words that sound the same (homophones), words that sound almost alike, and words that look almost alike. Therefore, we would like to pinpoint those words that are generally misused. However, in this paper we will put emphasis on words that sound alike or homophones first. We will provide their part of speech, meanings, sample sentences, and exercises for the readers to test themselves afterwards.

For part of speech, we will use adj for adjective, adv for adverb, n for noun, and prep for preposition.

Confused Words/Homophones: Set 1

1. air (n): the mixture of gases which surrounds the earth and which we breathe
   • I’m going outside to get some fresh air.
   (v): put into the open air; cause others to know; let the air in
   • It’s sunny today, so we’d better air these clothes outside.
   • Anna likes to air her knowledge to let other people know she has a lot of knowledge.
   • It’s stuffy in this room. Can we open the windows to air it?

Heir (n): a person with the legal right to receive the property or title of another person, usually when he/she dies
   • He is the heir because he is the only son of the family.

¹ Dean, the Faculty of Liberal Arts, the College of Asian Scholars
² Lecturers of English, the College of Asian Scholars
2. allowed (v): permitted; the past simple and past participle of allow
   • I am not allowed to go out alone at night.

aloud (adv): loudly
   • She called aloud for help.

3. altar (n): an elevated place or table for religious rites
   • We should put this altar in front of the Buddha image.

alter (v): change or adjust
   • Jack has decided not to alter his ideas.

4. aural (adj): having to do with the ear or hearing
   • He has to see his doctor about his aural problem.

oral (adj): having to do with the mouth or speech
   • Jenny hates doing oral presentation.

5. beach (n): a shore covered with sand, gravel, or pebbles
   • Bangsaen Beach is popular among tourists.

beech (n): tree with smooth bark and shiny dark green leaves
   • Have you ever seen a beech?

6. bean (n): a seed in long pods
   • Oh, there is a soya-bean left in this bowl of sprouted beans.

been (v): the past participle of be
   • They have been in Khon Kaen for a month.

7. bow (v): bend the head or body as a sign of respect or as a sign of greeting
   • The ballet-dancers bowed at the end of the performance.

(n): the front part of a ship
   • The bow of that ship is so colourful.

bough (n): a large branch of a tree
   • That bough was blown down by a storm last night.

8. brake (n): a device used for slowing or stopping
   • Tom couldn’t hit the brake in time, so he hit that poor dog.

(v): stop
   • Tom couldn’t brake his car, so he hit that poor dog.

break (n): breaking, a broken place; an interval in space or time
   • Shall we go for a coffee break now?

(v): come apart; crack; smash
   • Be careful! Don’t break that beautiful vase.

9. buy (v): get in return for money; get by paying money
   • Don’t buy things that you don’t need. It’s a waste of money.

by (prep, adv): near; through, along, over, across; past
   • My house in the South was by a canal.
   • I walked by your house yesterday.

10. capital (adj): chief; major; punishable by death; not small (of letters)
    • Should the capital punishment be reinforced?
    • The pronoun “I” is always written with a capital letter.

(n): leading city; money
    • Bangkok is the capital of Thailand.
• When we have enough capital, we will buy a shop for our business.
capital (n): a building in which the functions of state government are carried out
• The students are excited about visiting the state capitol next week.
capitol (n): a building in which the functions of state government are carried out
• This bronze coin is one cent.
cent (n): a penny; a coin worth 1/100 of a dollar
• My mother loves the scent of jasmine.
scent (n): a smell; the sense of smell
sent (v): the past simple and past participle of send
• Paul sent me a birthday present last week.
sent (v): the past simple and past participle of send
• The chord on this electric guitar sounds beautiful.
chord (n): a combination of three or more notes sounded together in harmony; string
cord (n): a thick string or thin rope; any rope-like structure.
• We need an extension cord for our microphone.
cord (n): a thick string or thin rope; any rope-like structure.
• When we cite something, we have to make it clear where it is taken from.
cite (v): give, mention, or write as proof taken from a written work
• Honey can be a perfect complement to pancakes.
complement (n): something that completes or makes up a whole
• English is Nan’s favorite course at school.
course (n): a direction or path of something moving; part of a meal; a school subject
15. coarse (adj): rough; not fine; inferior quality
• Tezza doesn’t like to wear anything made of coarse cloth.
16. complement (n): something that completes or makes up a whole
• Honey can be a perfect complement to pancakes.
compliment (n): an expression of praise
• Thank you for your compliment on my job.
compliment (n): an expression of praise
compliment (v): give praise
• Teachers should compliment their students when they do well at school, or when they do something good.

Now you can take a break, and work on Quiz 1.

Confused Words/Homophones: Set 2

17. dear (adj): loveable; loved; expensive
dear (adj): loveable; loved; expensive
• Mollie is a dear friend of mine.
• Can you tell if that is a deer or a doe?
18. **doe (n)**: a female deer, rabbit, or hare
   - Oh, that’s a **doe**. It doesn’t have horns.
   - dough (n): mixture of flour, water, yeast, etc for making bread, pastry, etc
   - Use a rolling pin to knead **dough**.
19. **fair (adj)**: dry and fine; just; in accordance with justice or the rules
   - It’s a **fair** day today. Let’s have a picnic in the park nearby.
   - fare (n): money charged for transportation
   - The bus **fare** in Khon Kaen is reasonable.
20. **fir (n)**: an evergreen tree with needle-like leaves (fir tree)
   - How can you grow a **fir** in your garden?
   - fur (n): the soft hair covering some animals such as dogs, cats, and rabbits; an animal skin with the fur on
   - Cats and dogs have soft **fur**.
   - I will never buy a **fur** coat.
21. **flour (n)**: powder made from grain
   - We need some **flour** for making bread today.
   - flower (n): the part of a plant which has a variety of colors and produces seeds
   - Jasmine is my favorite **flower**.
22. **for (prep)**: intended to be given to; having the purpose of; because of; showing amount of time or distance; etc
   - This paper is **for** students to learn more about confused words in English.
   - Mrs Smith has been working here **for** five years.
   - fore (adv): towards or in the front
   - You will have a better view if you are in the **fore** part of the ship.
23. **forth (adv)**: out; onwards; forwards
   - Try to study harder from this day **forth**.
   - fourth (adj, adv): the next after the third
   - Kate came **fourth** in the race.
   - fourth (n): one of four equal parts
   - Each of us will have a **fourth** of these dividends.
24. **forward (v)**: send (from an old address to a new address); help to advance
   - Could you please **forward** my mail to me while I’m out of town?
   - (adj): moving on, advancing; advanced or extreme
   - This is such a **forward** plan!
   - (adv): onward so as to make progress; to the front
   - She has made up her mind to **go forward**!
   - foreword (n): introductory remarks to a book
   - Be sure to read the **foreword** of this book.
25. **grate (n)**: a frame of metal bars for holding coal or wood in a fireplace
   - I think we need a new **grate**.
   - (v): rub into small pieces; annoy
   - Can we **grate** this papaya for our papaya salad?
   - Sometimes her voice **grates** on me.
   - great (adj): famous, powerful, or important; above the average in size, quantity, or degree
• Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-82) was a great philosopher, writer and essayist of the Romantic Period in American literature.

26. hair (n): the thread-like growths on the skin of animals, on the human head, on the stems and leaves of some plants
   • Girls with blonde hair and blue eyes are beautiful.

hare (n): a wild rabbit (larger than a rabbit)
   • You cannot raise a hare at home, can you?

27. hear (v): perceive (sound) with the ears
   • Deaf people can’t hear anything.

here (adv): in, at, to this place
   • Come here, will you? Come and see me now.

28. heard (v): the past simple and past participle of hear
   • I heard you. I’m coming now!

herd (n): a number of animals (cattle, deer, elephants)
   • There is a herd of cattle grazing by the river.

29. hole (n): an opening or a hollow place in a solid body
   • If you keep using your mobile phone while walking on the footpath, you may fall into a hole.

whole (adj, adv): unbroken; complete; entire; all
   • Tell me the whole truth if you want me to help.

(n): a thing that is complete in itself
   • Mr Spring wants to sell his land as a whole.

30. hour (n): 60 minutes
   • Having to wait for someone for an hour is tiring and boring.

our (adj): of or belonging to us
   • We’ll try our best to do the work we’ve been assigned.

31. knead (v): make (flour and water) into a firm dough; massage
   • Don’t you think it is tiring to knead dough?

need (n): the state of having something that we do not have
   • There’s no need for you to work so hard.

(v): require; be in need of; be necessary
   • The disadvantaged need more financial support.

32. knew (v): the past simple of know
   • I knew that you were coming to see me.

new (adj): not existing before; modern; recent
   • Is there any new good news for us?

33. knot (n): a make (fastening made by tying together the ends of a piece or pieces of string, rope, cloth, etc)
   • Tie this rope in a firm knot. Okay?

(v): make a knot or knots in; tie something with knots
   • We have to knot these two strings together.

not (adv): used to make a word or group of words negative
   • Eric is not Thai. He is American.

   • Eric does not like spicy food.

   • They told me not to bother you.
34. know (v): have (information) in mind; perceive directly
   • Do you know what you’re doing?
   no (adj): not one; not any
   • That poor boy has no money at all.
   (adv): (used with comparatives)
   • Sorry, I have no more money for you.
   (particle): opposite of yes
   • Are you busy today? No, it’s my day off.

Now have a break, and work on Quiz 2.
Confused Words/Homophones: Set 3

35. maid (n): a woman servant
   • Actually, she does not want to work as a maid, but she has no choice.
   made (v): the past simple and the past participle of make
   • Who made this mess? Clean it up!

36. mail (n): letters, parcels, etc, sent or delivered by mail/post
   • Is there any mail for me today? I’m waiting for a new dress I ordered online.
   (v): send
   • Could you please mail this on your way to work?

37. main (adj): chief; most important
   • What’s the main idea of this story?
   (n): a large pipe carrying water or gas, or a wire carrying electricity
   • There’s no water today. The water main has burst somewhere.
   mane (n): long hair on the neck of a horse, a lion, etc
   • That’s a male lion. It has a thick mane on its neck.

38. meat (n): animals’ flesh used as food (excluding fish and birds)
   • Vegetarians do not eat meat.
   meet (n): a sports event
   • There will be a track meet at our stadium next weekend.
   meet (v): come face to face with
   • Sam wants to meet Almira every week.

39. might (modal verb): the past form of may
   • Where is John? He might be upstairs.
   (n): great power; strength
   • We must work with all our might!
   mite (n): a very small animal similar to a spider; a very small amount
   • I’m not going to eat this cheese. I’ve seen at least a mite in it.

40. pain (n): a feeling of suffering (of body or mind)
   • The girl cried with pain when she fell down.
   (v): cause to feel sad or upset
   • His bad behavior really pains his parents.
   pane (n): a flat piece of glass in a window or door
Look! The front window pane is cracked!

41. pair (n): two things of the same kind; two persons closely associated
   • I need a new pair of shoes.
   (v): form a pair; join in pairs
   • Now everyone should pair up for the game.

pear (n): sweet, juicy fruit with a green skin
   • I would like to have a pear. Would you like one?

42. passed (v): the past simple and the passed participle of pass
   • The students who have passed the exit exam are very happy now.

past (adj): of the time before the present
   • We have been extremely busy during the past few days.

(adv): up to and farther than
   • On our trip to the South, we drove past beautiful beaches.

(n): the past time
   • We all know that we cannot change our past. So, do our best for now and the future.

(prep): after; beyond in time
   • It is half past five now.

43. patience (n): the ability to wait, or continue doing something without complaining
   • Teachers must have a lot of patience teaching young children.

patients (n): people receiving medical care
   • Dr. Johnson’s patients are in his clinic.

44. peace (n): freedom from war or civil disorder; rest, quiet, calm
   • Many old people long for the peace of the countryside.

piece (n): an item which is one of other similar items
   • Would you like a piece of candy?

45. peal (n): loud ringing of a bell; loud echoing noise
   • A peal of the bell at the temple annoys some people living nearby.
   (v): ring out loudly
   • The bell at that temple peals out early in the morning.

peel (n): skin of fruit, some vegetables, young shoots, etc
   • Why do you want the peel of these oranges.

peel (v): remove the skin of fruit and vegetables, etc
   • Please peel this papaya for me. I’m going to make a papaya salad.

46. plain (adj): easy to see, hear, or understand; simple; ordinary
   • She likes to wear plain clothes.

(n): a flat, treeless land region
   • Can we do anything to develop this plain?

plane (n): a tool for trimming the surface of wood; airplane/aeroplane
   • It’s faster and more convenient to travel by plane.

(v): make smooth with a plane
   • The carpenter can plane these pieces of wood.

47. presence (n): being present in a place
• Your presence is requested at the annual meeting.

presents (n): gifts
• All children love presents.

48. principal (adj): most important
• Who is the principal character in The Scarlet Letter?

(n): a person in charge of a school; chief; an amount of money which someone has invested in a bank or lent to a person or organization so that he/she will receive interest
• The schoolchildren do not want to be sent to the principal.
• Nowadays, it is hard for her to live off the interest on her principal.

principle (n): basic truth; general law of cause and effect
• People will live in peace if they do not do anything against moral principles.

49. rain (n): drops of water from clouds
• Don’t go out in the rain!

(v): fall or come down
• Don’t go out if it rains.

reign (n): (period of) sovereignty, rule
• Thai people have been very happy during the reign of the Chakri Dynasty.

(v): hold office as a monach; prevail; be the king or queen of a country, or be the most noticeable or most powerful person or thing
• King Bhumibol Adulyadej reigned Thailand from 1946-2016.

rein (n): a long, narrow strap fastened to a bridle for controlling a horse
• Hold the reins when you’re on a horse’s back.

(v): control with reins
• When you want the horse to stop, try to rein it back.

50. raise (n): increase in salary
• Try your best at work if you want a raise.

(v): lift up
• Raise your hand if you have a question.

rays (n): thin lines or beams of radiation
• The sun rays are heating the water.

raze (v): destroy completely; tear down or demolish
• They are going to raze that old building soon.

51. rhyme (n): sameness of sound of the endings of two or more words at the ends of lines of verse; a word which has the same last sound as another word; a short poem (for children)
• The kids love stories in rhyme.

(v): (of words) have the same last sound
• Can you find a word that rhymes with day? Yes, stay.

rime (n): hoarfrost; frozen moisture on grass, the surface of leaves, roofs, etc
• In winter, there is some rime in the North of Thailand.

52. right (adj): just; morally good; true; correct
• You’re absolutely right to say “No” to drugs.

(adv): straight; directly; completely; properly; justly; correctly
• Go right to the end of this block, and then turn left.

right (n): that which is good, just, true; proper authority or claim; something one may do or have by law

• Young people have the right to vote when they are eighteen.

right (v): make letters or other symbols on a surface such as paper or a computer screen using a pen, pencil or keyboard

• Most people nowadays can read and write.

rite (n): act or ceremony (especially in religious services)

• To become a full member of the church, one has to go through an initiation rite.

write (v): make letters or other symbols on a surface such as paper or a computer screen using a pen, pencil or keyboard

• Most people nowadays can read and write.

Now go on to Quiz 3 to check your understanding.

Confused Words/Homophones: Set 4

53. seam (n): a line where two edges, especially of cloth or leather are turned back and sewn together; a line where two edges meet

• Can you fix the seam here on my skirt?

seam (v): appear to be

• Emily seems to be a very nice girl.

54. scene (n): a part of a play or film; a particular area of life and all the things connected with it; a view

• You can see a beautiful scene of the countryside from the top of that hill.

scene (v): the past participle of see

• I’m looking for Nan. Have you seen her?

55. stair (n): one of the steps leading from one floor of a building to another

• Is it a cat sitting on that stair?

stare (n): staring look; a fixed gaze

• Don’t give anyone a rude stare. It’s very impolite.

stare (v): look for a long time; look fixedly

• Don’t stare at people. It’s impolite.

56. stake (n): a strong pointed stick driven into the ground as a post; a share or a financial involvement in a business

• Peter is driving a stake into the ground to mark his land.

• He now has a 50% stake in the company.

steak (n): meat or fish sold as a thick slice

• Let’s have some steak for dinner.

57. stationary (adj): not moving or changing; standing still

• Wait for the bus to remain stationary before stepping down.

stationery (n): writing paper and envelopes

• My niece loves flowered stationery.

58. steal (v): take something without the permission of the owner; obtain by surprise or a trick

• I’m sure that Billy didn’t steal your money. I’ve known him for years. He is an honest boy.

steel (n): hard alloy of iron and carbon or other elements, used for knives, tools, machinery, etc.

• A lot of people now have their gates made of steel instead of wood.
(v): force oneself to do something unpleasant or difficult; harden

- Get ready to steel yourself for a shock!

59. suite (n): complete set of furniture; set of rooms (in a hotel)
   - James says it is better for him and his friends to stay in a suite at the hotel.

sweet (adj): having a taste like sugar or honey; not sour, bitter, or salty; fresh and pure

- The elderly should not eat too much sweet diet.

(sweet): candy; sweet food eaten at the end of a meal

- Don’t let young kids eat too much sweet.

60. tail (n): a movable part at the end of an animal’s body; something like a tail
   - Look at the tail of the kite. It’s so long!

(v): follow close behind

- If he knows you try to tail him all the time, he will go away from you.

tale (n): story

- Children enjoy listening to fairy tales.

61. their (adj): of them; possessive
   - Their house is close to a convenience store.

there (adv): (of place and direction) in, at, or to, that place

- Wait for me at the store on the corner of the street. I’ll be there in a minute. they’re: contraction of they are

62. threw (v): the past simple of throw
   - Bobby accidentally threw a ball on to the window pane, and it broke. He had to pay for it.

through (adj, adv): finished or completed; during a period of time

- Are you through with the book you borrowed from me?
   - She gave him mental support through his illness.

(prep): (of places) from end to end or side to side

- Don’t walk through the front yard.

63. thyme (n): kinds of plant with sweet-scented leaves used in cookery
   - Add some thyme in the stew. It’ll smell good.

time (n): a particular point in the day, week, month, or year

- We need some time to talk.

(v): arrange the time of

- Time yourself when you write your essay in English. Try to spend only an hour on it.

64. vain (adj): without use, value, result; unsuccessful

- I tried very hard, but it was a vain attempt.

vein (n): a tube that carries blood to the heart; the frame of a leaf or an insect’s wing; a particular quality or characteristic; a style or a temporary mood

- You’ll be in big trouble if there’s something wrong with your vein.
   - She can write fluently when she is in the right vein.
vane (n): an arrow or pointer on the top of a building, turned by the wind
  • I saw a beautiful antique weather vane at an auction.

65. waist (n): part of the body between the ribs and the hips
  • Don’t mention the size of her waist in front of her.

waste (adj): (of land) that cannot be used; no longer of use; not use for any purpose
  • Something must be done to this waste land.
(n): wasting or being waisted
  • It’s a waste of time to play computer games all day.
(v): make no use of; use more than necessary; use without a good purpose
  • Come on. Get the ball rolling. Don’t waste our time.

66. wait (n): act or time of waiting
  • Sometimes we have a long wait for a bus in this city.

(v): stay where one is, delay acting
  • It’s very boring to wait for someone for a long time.

weight (n): how heavy one or a thing is
  • Don’t ask women about their weight. It is a sensitive matter.

67. way (n): road, street, path, etc
  • Which way should we take to get to the village faster?

weigh (v): measure (by means of a scale)
  • Only a doctor or a nurse can ask me how much I weigh.

68. ware (n): an article of commerce
  • You have to advertise your wares.
wear (v): have on the body
  • Marie likes to wear purple clothes.

where (adv): at or in what place; in what direction
  • Where are you from?

69. weak (adj): not strong; easily broken
  • Megan still looks weak because of her sickness.

70. weather (n): the conditions in the air
  • How is the weather today? Is it still wet?

whether (conjunction): (used in reporting questions and expressing doubts) if, or not; (used to introduce two or more possibilities)
  • I’m not sure whether he’s coming today or tomorrow.
  • Somebody must tell her, whether it’s you or me.

71. who’s: contraction of who is or who has
  • Who’s at the door?
  • Who’s made this mess?

whose (determiner, pron): used in questions asking about which person owns or is responsible for something
  • Whose paper is this?
  • Whose is this paper? There’s no name on it.

72. wood (n): a hard substance of a tree
  • The Boy Scout collected pieces of wood to build a fire.

would (v): the past tense of will
  • If I were you, I would try harder.

73. yoke (n): a harness fastening two or more animals together; a form of bondage
  • The farmer unfastened the yoke from the buffaloes after work.
yolk (n): the yellow part of an egg
• Could you beat up the yolks of two eggs?

74. you (pron): the person or people addressed
• I’m fortunate to have you as a friend.

ewe (n): a female sheep
• Can you tell whether it is a ewe?

75. your (adj): belonging to, relating to, you
• I’m glad to be your friend.

You’re: contraction of you are
• I’m glad you’re here.

Bibliography

Now enjoy your break and work on Quizzes 4 and 5.

Quizzes

Quiz 1 Directions: Choose words from “Confused Words Homophones: Set 1” to properly complete these sentences. Use each word only once.

1. This ____________ medicine will help make your ____________ condition better.
2. What is the ____________ city of Malaysia?
3. Mike will not study medicine. He can’t stand the ____________ of blood.
4. Students aren’t ____________ to read ____________ in the library.
5. I want to go to the ____________ to get some fresh ____________.
6. Jenny likes to go to the store ____________ her house to ____________ something.
7. If these ____________ are too big, I can ____________ the ____________ for you.
8. The students would like to have a/an ____________ before having another ____________ of study.
9. Have you ____________ to the North to see the frost in the cool season?
10. Give Bobby a/an ____________ on his good deed.

Quiz 2 Directions: Choose words from “Confused Words Homophones: Set 2” to suitably fill in the blanks to make complete sentences. Use each word once only.

1. My ____________ friend, when are you coming ____________ to see me?
2. Frank, would you mind helping me ____________ this ____________?
   I really ____________ your help. I have to bake more bread. After that, I’d like you to
help sift the ____________ ____________ the cake. Then, _______ the carrot, please.

Well, did you _______ what I said? Yes or _______?

3. It was such a _______ day that he decided to walk to school to save the bus _______.

4. Our football team is so _______. It has won _______ games in a row.

5. Why are you walking back and _______? Walking backward and ________!

6. Don’t you _______ the difference between a _________ and a ________?

7. We should groom _______ pet’s _______ every day.

8. I _______ that you’ve got a _______ from the wilds. Are you allowed to keep it as a pet?

Quiz 3 Directions: Fill in each blank with a word from “Confused Words/Homophones: Set 3.” Use each word once only.

1. Mrs Smith is a vegetarian. She doesn’t eat ________

2. I ________ be there, but I can’t give you a promise.

3. This ________ is juicy and sweet. Would you like one?

4. “It’s a ________ to fix this window _________ alone,” says Willy.

5. Doctors and nurses need a lot of ________ to take care of grumpy ________.

6. May I have another ________ of the apple-pie? It’s really good. I love it.

7. Whenever there’s ________ there’s heavy traffic.

8. Don’t you think everybody loves ________?

9. ________ that pretty girl? She looks so ________.

10. ________ have any ________? I’d like to write a note to Tim.

11. We’d better forget our mistakes in the ________. Let them be our lessons.

12. What do you think is the ________ moral ________ for people nowadays?

13. When we ________, please don’t ________ any issue concerning politics. I want to be at ________

Quiz 4 Directions: Choose a proper word in “Confused Words/Homophones Set 4” to complete each blank. Use each word only once.

1. I’ve never ________ such a beautiful ________ in any movie.

2. Did you put any ________ in ________ stew?

3. Don’t ________ at her. She ________ be angry at you.

4. She tries to ________ herself every day. She doesn’t want to gain any ________.

5. Anna has a very small _________. She can ________ any outfit.

6. ________ that pretty girl? She looks so ________.

7. Do ________ have any ________? I’d like to write a note to Tim.

8. When we were in America, we had to listen to the ________ forecast every day in winter.
9. Does it ________ hard to go _______ all the work in one hour? Well, if we don’t _______ any ________, we can do it.

10. My ___________ looks delicious. I can’t __________ to finish it.

**Quiz 5 Directions:** Underline 10 mistakes of confused words in each item and correct them by writing the correct word above each of them.

1. During the semester brake, my parents have aloud me to have a party at home this weak while there visiting they’re friends in another city. There on they’re weigh now. They’ll call me when they get their. But after the party, whose going to help me clean up the mess?

2. Many students are looking foreword to having online classes offered as a knew trend in education. But I wonder weather they really no there role as students, or how they can engage in a coarse threw real-thyme discussions in which they can be scene or herd by the instructor.

**Answer Keys**

**Quiz 1:**
1. oral, aural
2. capital
3. sight
4. allowed, aloud
5. beach, air
6. by, buy
7. clothes, alter
8. break, course
9. been
10. compliment

**Quiz 2:**
1. dear, here
2. knead, dough, need, flour, for, grate, hear, no
3. fair, fare
4. great, four
5. forth, forward
6. know, deer, doe (or doe, deer)
7. our, fur
8. heard, hare

**Quiz 3:**
1. meat
2. might
3. pear
4. pain, pane
5. patience, patients
6. piece
7. rain
8. write, main
9. presents
10. rhyme
11. right
12. past
13. principal, principle
14. meet, raise, peace

**Quiz 4:**
1. seen, scene
2. thyme, your
3. stare, would
4. seen, scene
5. Who’s, sweet
6. you, stationery
7. weather
4. weigh, weight
5. waist, wear
9. seem, through, waste, time
10. steak, wait

Quiz 5: 1. brake → break; aloud → allowed; weak → week; there → they’re; they’re → their; There → They’re; they’re → their; weigh → way; their → there; whose → who’s
2. foreword → forward; knew → new; weather → whether; no → know; there → their; coarse → course; threw → through; real-thyme → real-time; scene → seen; herd → heard

Now total your score. How many points do you get out of 100?

(90 – 100 = Excellent; 80 – 89 = Very Good; 70 – 79 = Good; 60 – 69 = Fairly Good)

Try to learn all of these confused words again if you get a score lower than 60.