

## **There vs. Their vs. They're**

“There” is used to refer to a location, or it can be used to show that something exists.

Example: There are two children over there on the jungle gym.

“Their” is an irregular possessive, like his, hers, or mine. It does not get an apostrophe.

Example: Their teacher is not paying close attention.

“They're” is a contraction of “they are” and gets an apostrophe.

Example: They're arguing because one is not going fast enough for the other.

## **Its vs. It's**

“Its” is an irregular possessive, like his, hers, or mine. It does not get an apostrophe.

Example: The card house you built collapsed under its own weight.

“It's” is a contraction of “it is” and gets an apostrophe.

Example: It's funny because I did not spend hours building a card house.

## **Your vs. You're**

“Your” is an irregular possessive, like his, hers, or mine. It does not get an apostrophe.

Example: Your hard work will be rewarded.

“You're” is a contraction of “you are” and gets an apostrophe.

Example: You're getting closer to finishing.

## **Whose vs. Who's**

“Whose” is an irregular possessive, like his, hers, or mine. It does not get an apostrophe.

Example: We know whose dog is the cutest.

“Who's” is a contraction of “who is” and gets an apostrophe.

Example: I have no idea who's the cutest dog.

## **I vs. Me vs. Myself**

“I” is used as a subject.

Example: I do not understand this.

“Me” is used as an object.

Example: It confuses me.

“Myself” is either an emphatic pronoun or a reflexive pronoun and is usually used if the writer has already used “I” in the sentence.

Example: I must show myself that I can do this.

### **Then vs. Than**

“Then” usually refers to timing or cause/effect.

Example: The Spurs defeated the Thunder, and then they beat the Heat.

“Than” is used to show comparison.

Example: The Spurs were better than the Thunder and Heat this year.

### **Affect vs. Effect**

“Affect” is a verb that shows influence.

Example: The success of the Spurs will affect their position in the upcoming draft.

“Effect” is a noun that usually refers to the results of an action.

Example: The success of the Spurs is an effect of how well they play as a team.

### **Who vs. Whom**

“Who” is the subject of a verb. (To test if “who” is correct, use the word “he” instead, and if the sentence works, use “who.”)

Example: Who ate all of the candy? (He ate all the candy?)

“Whom” is the object of a verb. (To test if “whom” is correct, use the word “him” instead, and if the sentence works, use “whom.”)

Example: You gave my last cream-filled chocolate egg to whom? (You gave my last cream-filled chocolate egg to him?)

### **Neither vs. Either**

“Neither” groups words together with negative phrasing and is paired with “nor.”

Example: I like neither peas nor broccoli.

“Either” groups words with neutral or positive phrasing and is paired with “or.”

Example: I like either fries or tots.

### **To vs. Two vs. Too**

“To” is either a preposition before a noun or an infinitive before a verb.

Example: I need to finish my dinner before I go to the freezer for ice-cream.

“Too” is an adverb meaning also. It can also be used to show an excess.

Example: I ate too many tacos, and he did, too.

“Two” is the written form of the number 2.

Example: “One bowl of ice cream would have been wiser than two.”