**Spelling Trouble Words**

**Spelling Trouble Words Guidelines**

1 page long (ELC charges 10 cents/page for print jobs)

The following is a list of word pairs and word sets that are often confused for one another in writing. The grammar texts for this module and/or the dictionary should be used to learn the correct meanings for these words.

a / an /and loose / lose

accept / except lightening / lightning

advice / advise passed / past

affect /effect precede / proceed

all ready / already principle / principal

are / our patience / patients

brake / break quit / quite / quiet

breath / breathe stationery / stationary

choose / chose than / then

capital / capitol their / there / they're

compliment / complement threw / through

conscience / conscious to / too / two

coarse / course weather / whether

council / counsel we're / were / where

desert / dessert who's / whose

its / it's your / you're

know / no

**Spelling Trouble Words Grammar Module Activities**

1 page long (ELC charges 10 cents/page for print jobs)

Instructions: Read the Guidelines Sheet for Spelling Trouble Words before you complete the following activities. The Extended Learning Center provides all the videos and books you will need to complete these activities.

Tutoring: You may see a tutor for help with understanding any of the following activities.

Activities:

1. Rules Sheet: Study the list of words on the Spelling Trouble Words Rules Sheet and look up the definitions of any unfamiliar words in the dictionary. Write down those words and their definitions.

2. SkillsBank: To enter the computer program at Lone Star College–Tomball, click the SkillsBank Icon. At Lone Star College–Willow Chase Center, click the “Start” button in the bottom left-hand corner of your screen. Select “Learning Assistance” and then “SkillsBank.” Log in to SkillsBank with your assigned user name and identification number. In SkillsBank, select “Language” from the column of subjects on the left of the screen and then “Spelling” from the list of lesson topics across the top.

¨ Do your choice of any of the spelling lessons (Lessons 1 – 22) that you think will help you improve your spelling.

Your scores will automatically be reported to your instructor, so you will not need to print out a record of your activities.

Grammar textbook work: Do not write in the textbooks. Either photocopy exercise pages from the text or complete assignments on your own paper (writing short answers whenever possible, rather than copying entire sentences).

3. The Little, Brown Handbook (8th edition): Read Chapter 41 (pages 603-616), paying close attention to the list of “Words commonly confused” (pages 604-605). Complete Exercises 1, 3, and 6.

4. Odyssey (3rd edition): Read Chapter 29 (pages 460-485), focusing on your personal spelling weaknesses. Study “Commonly Confused Words” (pages 471-476) and complete Exercise 29.7. Review “Commonly Misspelled Words” (pages 478-481) and complete Exercise 29.9.

5. Writer’s Choice: Read pages 798-803 and complete Exercise 2 on page 803.

6. Worksheets: Complete Worksheets PS410, PS414, and PS415 (the next pages in this document). Use the answer key, located in the Extended Learning Center, to check your answers.

Turn in all work assigned by your instructor before taking the Trouble Words Test.

**Trouble Words**

**Practice Test**

(2 pages, 10¢/page to print in ELC)

DIRECTIONS: In the following passage, each numbered section stands for a test item. Determine if there is a spelling error in each section. On the scantron mark your answers as follows:

“A” if the sentence/numbered section does not contain a spelling error

“B” if the sentence/numbered section does contain a spelling error

(1) Purchasing my very first new car was more exciting for me then anything else I have ever done. (2) I had all ready done some investigation on the internet before I walked threw the dealership doors, so I knew exactly what kind of vehicle I wanted. (3) Being so young, I was not sure that any of the sales people would want to give me personnel attention, but a woman in a nice suit walked right over to me and introduced herself to me. (4) Next she asked me weather I wanted to look at cars, trucks, or SUVs. (5) I proceeded to tell her exactly what I was looking for: a silver Mustang! (6) She broke into a big smile and said, “Your in luck! I have three of them in stock right now!” (7) She led me out the showroom door and across the lot, passed row after row of new cars. (8) I was glad then that I had already decided what to buy because it would have been quite overwhelming to make my choice if I’d had to start from scratch. (9) When we reached the front of the lot and I saw that row of shiny new Mustangs, it took my breath away! (10) They’re were cars of every color in the rainbow. (11) I wasn’t conscience of how long I stood there staring until the saleswoman pointed and said, “The three silver ones are down at the end of the row.”

(12) I spent more than an hour looking at those three silver Mustangs, but her patients never wavered. (13) She explained about the different engine types, transmissions, and break systems. (14) She also explained how the performance options on each car would affect gasoline mileage. (15) I guess she understood that it’s a really big decision to purchase a car, especially for someone whose never done it before. (16) I finally narrowed it down to two of the three cars, but just couldn’t choose between them. (17) I decided that the best thing to do was use my cell phone to call my uncle and get some advise from him. (18) My uncle said, “The principle thing at this point in the process is to decide which is the most important for you, economy or performance. (19) Either way you go, you can’t lose since you’re getting the exact car that you wanted in the first place” (20) When I drove my new Mustang to my uncle’s house that afternoon, I proudly accepted everyone’s compliments on what a great car I had picked out.

Answer Key:

1. a

2. b

3. b

4. b

5. a

6. b

7. b

8. a

9. a

10. b

11. b

12. b

13. b

14. b

15. b

16. a

17. b

18. a

19. a

20. a