

Commonly Confused Words

Exercise 3

Directions: Circle the correct word in each parenthesis.

1. “Don’t (loose, lose) your tickets,” the tour guide reminded the students.
2. “I believe the (quote, quotation) is from Shakespeare,” said the professor.
3. (Its, It’s) long past the time for thinking; we must evacuate!
4. The witness was very (plane, plain) in appearance, dress, and speech.
5. The jury’s decision was not given immediately; (there, they’re, their) deliberation continued through the night.
6. The (capital, capitol) is the largest building in Washington.
7. A large (amount, number) of people were pulled from the smuggler’s van.
8. The negotiations were able to (affect, effect) the release of the prisoners held by the gunman.
9. She (past, passed) the bar exam last March.
10. Many times my children seem to (imply, infer) the opposite of what I tell them.
11. “The (farther, further) you travel, the closer you are to home,” the old man said.
12. Do not (set, sit) down on the stage set!
13. The carpenter’s (plain, plane) is one of my most cherished tools.
14. Calculus is hard; I also have to spend (to, too) much time on it.
15. The writer (laid, lay) his pen on the paper and leaned back in his chair.
16. The angry mob (hanged, hung) the prisoner from a lamp post.
17. Which archeological (site) are you going to (sight, cite) in your report?
18. A man who loses his (morale, moral) compass cannot tell good from evil.
19. A guiding (principal, principle) of all doctors is: “First, do no harm!”
20. The building’s (imminent, eminent) collapse did not daunt the workers struggling to free people from the wreckage of the building.